No. 555. VIRGINIA

SUNBEAM EXPRESS CIGARETTES

No. 444.

YOUR XMAS GIFT from "JOHN BULL" See Page ii.

# JOHN BULL

VOL. XXVIII. No. 758. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1920. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

DRINK AND ENJOY LIPTON'S TEA

One Week £1000 FOOTBALL PRIZE MUST BE WON

By Appointment To H.M. The King.

Of 4,503 babies reared on Nestlé's Milk—half of them from birth—4,375 are in perfect health after 2½ years. No food can give a better result than this, therefore we repeat

Mothers! Nurse your babies; if you *can't*, get

NESTLÉ'S MILK

which is not an expensive patent food but simply pure milk and refined sugar.

It contains intact the essential life-giving elements of fresh milk, without the attendant tubercular or other injurious germs, so often present in the latter; besides it is

THE RICHEST IN CREAM

Cash Price: 1/4½d. and 8½d. per tin.

*A copy of our "1920 NESTLÉ'S BABY BOOK"—the most remarkable Baby Book ever published—will be sent post free on application to*

NESTLÉ'S, 6-8, EASTCHEAP, LONDON, E.C.3.

# Your Xmas Gift from "John Bull"

A6621
This Coupon entitles
the holder to a John Bull Pen of
the special value to One Shilling
equivalent in value to One Shilling
Only one coupon will be taken on
part payment for each pen and is
available to December 31st 1920
Signed
The Manager
£0-1-0
93 Long Acre London WC
Xmas 1920

*This offer applies to readers in the British Isles and Colonies but not in Foreign Countries. Applications from Colonial readers will be accepted until 31st January, 1921.*

At the request of numerous readers we are reprinting the "JOHN BULL" Xmas Gift Coupon, which will be accepted as 1s. in part payment of a "JOHN BULL" Pen. Every reader should take advantage of this Great Xmas Offer. Choose from the list below the pen or pens you require and send your order (with Coupon) TO-DAY to ensure early delivery.

*All Pens are fitted with 14ct. Solid Gold Nibs iridium-tipped.*

| | | | With Gift Coupon |
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| **No. 1.** | **"STANDARD" MODEL** Thoroughly reliable. | Price 3/3 | **2/3** |
| **No. 2.** | **"DE LUXE" MODEL** Superior Finish. | Price 4/6 | **3/6** |
| **No. 3.** | **"SAFETY" MODEL** Disappearing Nib; Ideal for Travelling. | Price 7/- | **6/-** |
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*Pocket Clip to fit any model, 4d.*

**Postage and Insurance 3d. extra on each Pen.**

NOTE.—Please state whether you prefer a fine, medium, or broad nib.

**"J.B." Pens are equal in every respect to the very much higher priced pens so extensively advertised.**

*Every Pen is Guaranteed.*

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**The Manager Pen Dept., "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2**

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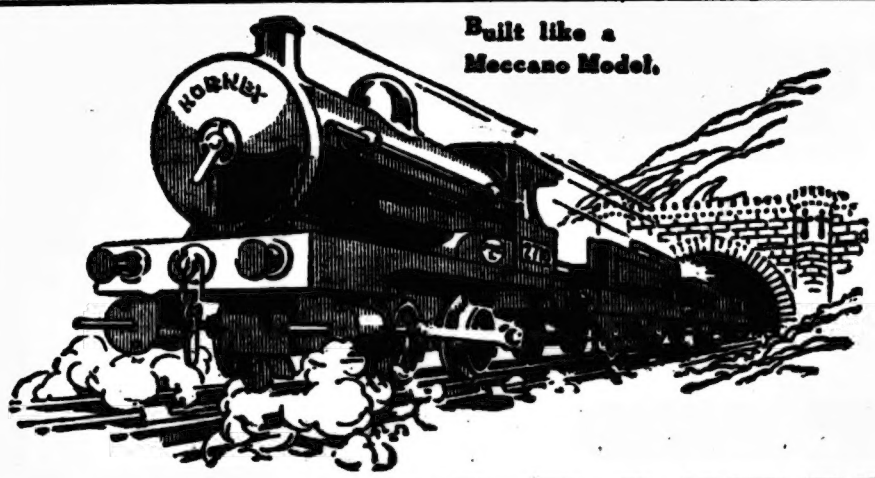


Built like a Meccano Model.

# THE HORNBY CLOCKWORK TRAIN

THE Hornby Train is first of all the smartest looking and the smoothest running Clockwork Train you ever saw.

But the Hornby Train has also a remarkable new feature It can be taken entirely to pieces and rebuilt, just like a Meccano model—all the parts being standardised.

If one of the parts is damaged or lost, you can replace it with a new one, and fit it yourself.

Supplied in Gauge o in three different colours to represent the L. & N.W., G.N., and Midland Railway systems. Each Engine is fitted with Reversing Gear, Brakes and Regulators. Price, complete with Engine, Tender, Goods Wagon, and strong steel track, packed in fine box .. .. **27/6**

**Perfect Mechanism**
**Beautiful Finish**
**Standardised Parts**

**Look for this mark when buying a Clockwork Train.** *It indicates that your Train has been manufactured by Meccano Limited, and it has our full guarantee of quality, efficiency, and workmanship behind it.*

**Meccano Ltd. : Binns Rd. : Liverpool**

**FREE TO BOYS.**
A SPLENDID NEW MECCANO BOOK.

This is a beautiful new book which shows boys how to enjoy every minute of their play hours. It tells you all about the Hornby Clockwork Train, and all the other Meccano products.

TO GET A FREE COPY just show this advt. to three chums and send us their names and addresses.

*Address your letter to Dept N.*

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**WHY THROW AWAY SAFETY RAZOR BLADES?**

Be sure you ask for and get "Jigger"

USE THEM IN THE **JIGGER** PATENT **2/6** Heavily Nickel Plated.

Patents Granted or pending all Countries

**Permanently sharp POCKET KNIFE with renewable blades.**

A—Nail File.
B—Manicure.
C—String Cutter.
D—Cigar Cutter.
E—Bottle Opener.
F—Safety Corn Cutter.
G—Chain Ring.

Other uses given in pamphlet supplied with each "Jigger."

BRITISH THROUGHOUT

The "Jigger" solves the problem of what to do with old safety razor blades, and at the same time, it can be used for more than 20 different purposes some of which are given here. The "Jigger" is the sharpest pocket knife in the world, its blades are renewable, and spare blades cost you nothing. It has all the uses of an ordinary pocket knife and many more, at half the price. It lies flat in the pocket is beautifully finished, and makes a most useful present. Made also in electro plate, rolled gold and solid silver.

**£5 FOR A BRAIN WAVE!** We are offering £5 for the list which, in our opinion, gives both the best and largest number of "Jigger" uses. 20 prizes of £1 and 100 other prizes. Ask your Stores, Cutler, Stationer, Ironmonger, Chemist or Fancy Goods Merchant for a "Jigger"—and send your idea of its best uses, before December 31, to the sole Proprietors:—WATSON, SON & Co., Regd., 7, 8, 9, Southampton St., London, W.C.2

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# Sartor Raincoats always at sale price

## 3-GUINEA RAINCOATS for 29/6

SARTOR never have a special sale, but their wonderful raincoats are always sold at sale price.

The exact copy of the highest quality Three-Guinea Raincoat is offered you at the phenomenal price of 29/6 only, but do not send any money until you have seen the quality of the materials and handled its superfine texture.

Over half-a-million people have already tested Sartor value. Why do you not secure a Sartor Raincoat at the exceptional price quoted here?

**Send To-day for Free Parcel of Patterns, Style Book and Self-Measurement Forms.**

Every Sartor Raincoat goes out bearing our reputation behind it, and every article is sold on the definite guarantee of satisfaction or money refunded in full.

**Why not buy the Best?**
**Be Sartor Raincoat Clad in this Bad Weather.**

Our parcel of patterns etc., will surprise you, and, as stated, our reputation and guarantee goes with every Sartor Raincoat. Send that postcard to-day for your Sartor free pattern parcel. Address all applications to:—

**THE SARTOR MANUFACTURING CO. (Dept. J), 53, Oxford Rd., Manchester.**

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**THE "JOHN BULL" GUARANTEE.** *We guarantee the goods advertised by every firm whose trade announcement appears in JOHN BULL, i.e., we hold ourselves responsible for their being of the quality and standard represented at the time of purchase and the date of payment, either in full or of first instalment, and if any reader can show just cause for dissatisfaction with the purchase of any goods made through any trade advertisement in our columns we will refund the purchase money, provided the goods complained of are sent to us within one week from the date of original purchase. All communications should be addressed to JOHN BULL, Advertisement Department, 92, Long Acre, London, W.C. 2.*

The SUNDAY EVENING TELEGRAM— the only Sunday evening paper.

# JOHN BULL

"Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."
—*Milton.*

*The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.*

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:*
*Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rank.*

"For forms of government let fool contest;
Whate'er is best administered is best."—*Pope.*

Vol. XXVIII. No. 758. Week ending Saturday, December 11th, 1920. Twopence.


## THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[*The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.*]

**The German War Criminals.**

Would it be believed that, despite all our warnings, the Government have not so far thought it necessary to call for any report from the British Ambassador at Berlin as to whether the alleged German war criminals are being allowed to get out of the country?

**Oxford and Party.**

Well, we have been to Oxford, and at one of the biggest "houses" in its history the Union has resolved, by 530 votes to 259, that it would "deplore a return to the Party system." It is significant and dramatic evidence of the coming advent of the New Order of Things.

**An Example to Westminster.**

By the way, how would Ministers like to be called upon, as are the Officers of the Union, to answer questions without previous notice? Take this as an example: "I beg to ask the President if he will see that we have a better supply of soap, in order that we may comply with Mr. Asquith's advice 'to keep our liberalism clean'." And here was the prompt reply, from the young and brilliant Beverley-Nichols: "I have always understood that Cleanliness is closely allied to Godliness—and theological questions are not allowed."

**Another Mischief Maker.**

We hear that Col. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P., is doing an enormous amount of harm in India, advising the natives to follow their English brethren's example and strike for better pay, and generally stirring up discontent. And yet we understand he has been staying at Government House as the guest of the Governor of Bombay. Verily, we are a strange people!

**The Unknown Sailor.**

Letters still pour in by every mail supporting our plea for the State burial of an unknown sailor. One of the best suggestions we have received in this connection is that the unknown sailor's resting place should be the foot of the Nelson Column. We are afraid, however, that the whole idea is far too obviously correct to commend itself to the authorities.

**Christmas Cheer for Soldiers.**

We regret that, as the result of our inquiries of various provincial borough authorities, it has been found impossible to organise in time our proposed scheme for the entertainment of ex-Service men and their families at Christmas, and consequently we have reluctantly been compelled to abandon the proposal. At the same time, we hope our readers will support the fund for the entertainment of the London poor, particulars of which will be found on page 5.

**An Independent "Daily."**

When are we to have an absolutely independent daily paper? Our letter-bag shows that such a publication would be universally welcomed. *Nous verrons.*

**Well Done, Miners!**

All credit to the miners for the faithful redemption of their pledge to increase output. But what a tragedy the old production is proved to have been! It must never happen again.

**Enter Austria.**

So Mr. Barnes is gradually getting his way at Geneva, and Austria, the most rotten and moribund of the European nations, is to be admitted to the League—which is, of course, the first step towards bringing Germany in. Let us see, *was* there a war?


ONE WEEK
£1,000
FOOTBALL PRIZE
MUST BE WON.
*For Free Coupon see page iii. Cover.*


**Of Course Not!**

So the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not see his way to accept our suggestion that he should issue a six per cent. loan, giving the holders of the five per cent. loan the right to convert into the stock on condition that they subscribe for a similar amount of the new loan. But he'll see his way all right, later on!

**The "Abode of Love."**

Apologising, the other day, for a bad speech at a conference at the Central Hall, Westminster, of British and International Women's Organisations, Lady Astor said she had been too busy to prepare anything, "being the only woman in the 'Abode of Love' over the way." We are glad to know that she bears us no ill-will.

**Suborning British Soldiers.**

So the Prime Minister is satisfied that, even though telling British prisoners of war in Russia that if they would turn Bolshevist he would secure their immediate release, Mr. Lansbury was not guilty of suborning them from their allegiance to the King; and he declines to take the advice of the Law Officers on the subject. We must give him a lead in the matter.

**Mr. *Punch* and Ourselves.**

In a list of suggested changes in London's monuments—"New Statues for Old."—Mr. *Punch* is good enough to place us at the top of the Nelson Column. Evidently, there is something in a name, after all!

**The Explanation.**

Apropos of that poster of ours, "Why I didn't go to the Bar," Mr. *Punch*, by the way, suggests that "perhaps it was after hours." As though that would have deterred us!

**"Something Better to Do."**

Asked in the House of Commons the other day whether he would look up his election pledges, the Prime Minister replied that he "had something better to do." We agree—he couldn't do anything worse.

***Deutschland* Souvenirs.**

The breaking up of the historic German submarine—now in our possession—has not yet commenced, but full particulars of the sale of souvenirs, for the benefit of War Charities, will be announced at an early date.

**More Governmental Extravagance.**

What do you think is the amount paid to coastguardsmen and others for dealing with cast-up mines? The answer is, two shillings per man—with no compensation to their widows and children in the event of disaster.

**Diamond Cutting.**

What a revolution in the diamond-cutting industry—hitherto the monopoly of Holland and Germany—Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer is bringing about! And, incidentally, what a boon the change is bringing to our wounded soldiers, who are adapting themselves splendidly to the work.

**Premium Bonds.**

We wonder whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer saw any of those remarkable queues of people waiting outside the White City for the purpose of taking their chance in the "Lucky Dip." They were nothing, however, compared with the crowds which will throng the precincts of the banks when at last Premium Bonds come.

**Well Done, Northampton!**

We recently gave Birmingham a pat on the back for granting free passes on its tramcars to disabled soldiers and sailors; and we now find that Northampton Corporation go one better—issuing passes even to those who have "any difficulty in walking." The phrase is somewhat ambiguous, but we think we know what it means.

**Voting.**

With the Tino party in power in Greece and issuing voting papers "on the simple issue for or against ex-King Constantine," we are reminded of a remark attributed to Kruger when the British colonists in the Rand were clamouring for the vote: "Everybody can have votes if they please," he said, "so long as I'm here to count 'em."

**Old Story Retold.**

Apropos, too, is the story of the parson who had received "a call" to a more remunerative post. "Has father decided yet what he is going to do?" demanded the Nosey-Parker of the parish, on meeting the parson's young daughter. "I haven't been told," she said, "but father is praying for light and mother is packing the boxes."

**Who Gets the Difference?**

When we learn that farmers in the Waterford district for some time past have been receiving only 9d. per lb. for the best Hogget wool, compared with 1s. before the war, and that 1 lb. of wool will make one yard of the best serge, it seems plain that a deal of profiteering is still going on in the cloth trade. Wool at 9d. per lb. does not square with suits at ten or more guineas. All the difference cannot be absorbed by the high cost of labour. When the farmer has skinned the sheep, someone starts in to skin the public.

**A Danger Signal.**

Shell-shocked men are perturbed over Clause 10 of Dr. Addison's Health Bill. It provides that persons suffering from incipient mental disorder may be received in private asylums, approved by the Ministry of Health, for a period of six months. It is true that their own consent has to be obtained, but there are many ways of obtaining that. The clause abolishes the certification of insanity at present in force, and so opens a danger road for all persons temporarily weak-minded, civilian as well as military. It is a move to be checkmated.

**Trouble at the Cape.**

The Press has been curiously silent with respect to the serious native riot that occurred at Port Elizabeth on October 23rd last, when several European spectators of the affray were killed and a number seriously wounded. The disturbance arose in consequence of the arrest of two native Labour agitators who had been working dangerously on the inflammable and undisciplined minds of their countrymen. More and more is the agitator, of whatever colour, becoming a menace to the civilised world. In the Port Elizabeth incident we see one of the results of the "education" of the native African.

**An Unnecessary Burden.**

One of the best schemes of the Ministry of Labour is bungled by officials. It sends ex-Service men to be trained in various trades, and leaves the employer to pay the full allowances, including wife and children, every week. The sum is refunded monthly, less £1 a week per man, learner's wage. It is not every employer who can shoulder the outlay, complicated as it is by the numerous and intricate forms that have to be filled. The forms alone are enough to appal a tradesman, and it is small wonder that some fight shy of training men. The way should be made easier.

**Insolence: Official.**

Through no fault of his own, an ex-regular soldier of the Gordon Highlanders, wounded five times in the war, found himself with his pregnant wife homeless in the streets of Aberdeen. He called at the office of the City Chamberlain and was there informed by an official, he says, that he "would just have to walk the streets, like many hundreds more in Aberdeen." If that official does not know how to be sympathetic, he might at least learn how to be civil.

**Discharged Railwaymen.**

We are told that railwaymen are being discharged in very large numbers. They have served in Army or Navy, yet they are cast out of employment by Government Controllers, just when Ministers are urging other people to give work to ex-Service men. It is suggested that the notion is to cut down expenses, so as to reduce the liability to the railway companies, but it is only the workers who suffer—the officials on big salaries remain. To throw these men upon their beam-ends just before Christmas is an added injury.

**Very False Teeth.**

From time to time we hear more about Messrs. Williams, the false teeth people, whose methods we have often had occasion to condemn. A recent protest comes from a man who claims to have bought two sets of teeth from them, "neither being of any use whatever." The first set was short of four teeth, and, when re-made, utterly failed to fit. The cost was £5 5s. A temporary set was necessary, price £3 3s., and that was "the same as the others, useless." Readers should shun such quacks.

**The Best Cure for the Hump**

Used and recommended by the leading Doctors and Dentists everywhere. Never known to fail. Even professional humorists brighten up after a few applications. To obtain the best results should be taken regularly.

Try a copy of this week's
**PASSING SHOW**
On Sale Everywhere - 2d.

**What's Wrong With the Dome?**

Scotland Yard rightly insists that a taxi-driver should possess "knowledge of London," but it is quite possible to expect too much. An ex-Service man, anxious to drive his own cab, is held up for his licence, despite his pre-war experience and the fact that he knows every road in and out of London, because it appears he cannot answer satisfactorily certain fool questions, such as, "Have you noticed anything wrong with the dome of St. Paul's?" What earthly use is that kind of "knowledge"?

**Mixing the Goods.**

An instance of the utter lack of conscience, or the utter lack of care, with which some British traders regard their duty to British customers is the case of Messrs. Barratt, of Wood Green. These people issue "Santa Claus stockings" at 1s. 6d. each, "made at Wood Green, London, England." When the goods are purchased, they are found to be a mixed lot, the majority of the principal toys being "Made in Germany." "Needless to say," an Eastbourne retailer tells them, "this is the last time I buy, and I shall tell my customers why I do not stock your goods." What a game it is!

**Tragic Thomas.**

Latest from Mr. J. H. Thomas, the railwaymen's leader, is that unless there is a great change in this country for the better "there will be nothing left to strike for." And he is right, too. The tax collector and the rate collector will have to come and rope it in.

**A Slight Improvement.**

Here and there throughout the country the Great Unpaid are beginning dimly to realise that the defiling of young girls is a crime deserving a certain degree of punishment. They are actually substituting short terms of hard labour for paltry fines—one Bench having recently sentenced to a month's hard labour Percy George, of Snettisham, for having indecently assaulted a little girl of 4½ years. We would, however, remind them that there *is* such a thing as the "cat."

**Beaten by a Short Head.**

Certain police officers appear to us to have a legitimate grievance. Although time-expired, they carried on during the war period, but were retired at various dates up to 31st March, 1919. Consequently they receive about half the rate of pension granted to officers retiring on and after 1st April, 1919—some missed the larger pension by one day! As only about 200 men throughout the kingdom are affected by this manifest injustice, it could be remedied without any serious inroad on the public funds.

**"Great Practical Difficulties."**

Several provincial tramway undertakings have made concessions to disabled ex-Service men in the matter of fares. Yet the Traffic Manager of the London County Council Tramways, replying to representations on the subject by a reader, regrets the Council's inability to do anything, "on account of the very great practical difficulties." We should be more impressed by this assertion if the L.C.C. had not found it perfectly practical to charge a maximum fare of twopence only for journeys of any length during slack periods.

**Cheap Bites.**

Two gentlemen named Graham, of Knockupworth Hall, Carlisle, keep five dogs. A boy hawker entering the gates was attacked by them, bitten all over, and had to stay nine days in the Infirmary. Every bite, and there were many, was separately cauterised. Messrs. Graham said they kept the dogs as a protection against thieves, but the Bench, at Carlisle unanimously decided that the animals were dangerous and ordered them to be kept under proper control, defendants to pay costs. There was no fine, and no compensation for the bitten boy. Bites are cheap at Carlisle.

**Job for a Chinaman.**

It is sometimes said Labour Exchanges are no good to anybody because they find jobs for nobody. This must be an error, judging by the advertisement which an "unemployed discharged soldier" says he found posted at the Labour Exchange in Camden Town: "Westminster. Washer-up. Must be a Chinaman. Perm. £2 p.w. Hrs. indef. Food prov. No fares. Florenco Restaurant." The preference of London restaurateurs for Swiss waiters is well known, but this is the first time we have heard that they employ Chinese washers-up. It will not surprise us now if somebody informs us that many of their cooks are born in the Cannibal Islands.

**Local Limerick.**

(*Mrs. Rowe, a Bristol lady, faced a six-foot burglar, who insisted on kissing her. She said, "I thought it best to humour him."*)

There was a brave lady of Bristol,
Who faced a thief minus a pistol;
Like a passive resister
She stood when he kissed her,
And her conscience is clear as a crystal.

---

**Wines and Whines.**

While we are being bombarded with whining appeals to feed German children, there is so much money to spare on luxuries in the country of our 'late" enemy that the consumption of champagne has risen from 4 million bottles in 1914 to over 10 millions during the current year. Common sense alone would seem to indicate that Englishmen and Englishwomen with surplus cash should devote it to the feeding of our own orphans and children.

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**Gas Inflation.**

The North Middlesex Gas Company do not err on the side of moderation in charging £7 for connecting a new house with their main and installing a meter. Before the war their charge for the same work was 5s. An increase of 2,700 per cent. is rather a tall order, and in our view utterly unjustified. The Hendon Electric Light Co. are almost equal sinners, demanding £6 4s. 7d. for connecting current to a new house. Is there no local authority to restrain such rapacity?

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An ex-Service man—three years and nine months with the Colours—informs us that he applied recently at Bridge Street Labour Exchange to be trained as a telephone operator, to be informed that he was "too short." Our correspondent says, and says truly, "If I was tall enough to carry a pack and shoulder a rifle, I am tall enough to earn bread for my wife and baby." Furthermore, isn't it customary for a telephone operator to "operate" from the eminence of a stool?

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**"No Vacancy."**

As mentioned in another column, the Directors of the Westfield Paper Mills, Bathgate, recently presented gold watches to their returned ex-Service employees. About the same time poor Ellis Davis Magnus, a Highbury tailor, of 46, was contemplating suicide because the firm for which he had worked for twenty years before joining up had "no vacancy" for him on his discharge from the Army. On the one hand, gratitude and generosity; on the other, indifference, ingratitude, and—suicide!

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**How Heroes are Buried.**

Ex-Pte. E. Daykin, of Mansfield, having lost a leg and an eye, and received 29 shrapnel wounds, died, and was buried on Armistice Day. Efforts to obtain a military funeral were made by the local Pensions Committee Secretary, who was informed by the Derby military authorities that even if a party could be sent, the person making the request (in this case the widow of the dead soldier) would have to pay all travelling and subsistence expenses for 12 of the firing party, six bearers and two drummers! Upon this, the matter was dropped, and the hero was buried without military ceremonial, except that the local Boy Scouts provided a Guard of Honour. Yet this is to be the land "fit for heroes to live in"! Who will make it fit for heroes to die in?

**The Babies of Bakewell.**

Although an Inquiry by the Ministry of Health has established the fact that there is no evidence that any of the officials of the Bakewell, Derbyshire, Union Workhouse were responsible in two cases in which women inmates gave birth to illegitimate children, the Ministry holds that in one instance, at least, the opportunity for misconduct must have occurred while the woman was within the institution. There must be something deplorably lax in the administration of the Workhouse.

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**A Water Company's Joke.**

Fierce was the mood of the Sheppey Water Co., at the end of October last. Payment of the rate then due was demanded by November 1st. Otherwise, came the dread threat, "Supply will be cut off without any further notice." Trembling consumers who hurried to pay up by the fatal First, were still more startled on that eventful day for the water supply suddenly ceased—"without any further notice"—and was missing for nearly two weeks. There had been a breakdown. Many a jest is spoken in earnest.

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**Justice—on the Squint.**

For cruelly beating a cow by hitting it "with all his force across the head and body with the stick produced," the Gloucester City Sessions Magistrates, Messrs. H. G. Robinson, J. Ward, J. R. Pope, A. J. Burlton, and H. G. Norman, fined George Cook, of Cheltenham, 5s. and costs; for keeping his confectioner's shop open 10 minutes after 8 p.m. they fined Arthur Price, of Gloucester, £2, as they "regarded the offence as a very serious one." Will somebody that way kindly murder his grandmother so that they may let him off with a caution?

---

**Discipline.**

We confess to some sympathy with William Johnson, the Metropolitan Police Constable, who has been fined £5 for absence from duty. His wife and baby were so ill that they had to go to Scotland, the wife's home, and absence from her husband so preyed on her health that he feared he would lose her. He was not allowed to resign forthwith, nor was his request for a transfer to Rosyth granted, although he stated all the circumstances of the case and declared that he had to choose between his wife and duty. Technically he was in the wrong, but it was a case for mercy.

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**A Blind Beggar.**

A German, a representative of that race which is directly responsible for more blindness in this country than any other cause, has the audacity to pester English gasworks with whining postcards. He calls himself P. Prumbaum, of Berg Gladbach, near Cologne, and writes: "I lost both my eyes during the war, and on account of being entirely blind, I am unable to see your country and to travel about. I can deliver a first-class, fine-grinded, most fire-proof Cement. . . . I should be very glad, if you could please me, regarding (*sic*) to my position, with an order for a few barrels as a sample." Let him appeal to the millionaire ex-Kaiser.

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**Be in Time.**

If you want to win the record "Bullets" prize of 1,000 guineas, send in your coupons this week. Many other valuable prizes must be won. See page 24.


# KEEP FIT AND DO YOUR BIT.

*"There's work to be done and differences to settle," said Cheeriboy, "and it's up to all of us to keep ourselves so fit and well that whatever the job, we can tackle it with a sound body and a clear brain.*

*"For my part I'm always fit, thanks to Page Woodcock's Pills, and the bigger the job or tougher the problem the more I like it."*

For over seventy years Page Woodcock's Pills have kept thousands of people fit and happy. They are a natural vegetable remedy for all **stomach, liver** and **kidney troubles.** Without purging they gently cleanse the system from all impurities. They assist but never force the digestive organs, and act as a powerful but harmless stimulant to the liver and kidneys. Try how true this is for yourself. Get a box to-day, and join the ranks of health and happiness.

**They make and keep you fit!**
**70 years' reputation.**
**Sold by all Chemists. 1/3 and 3/- per box.**
**Have Cured Millions. *Why not you?***

**Page Woodcock's Pills**

***The Favourite***

SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM is a football favourite — not for a mere season or two, but for all time, because once a man has tasted this deliciously creamy toffee he succumbs at once to its fascinating flavour. Make *your* goal on the way to the match this week—the shop displaying the orange tin with the parrot and knut upon it, and see how delightful and sustaining Super-Kreem really is.

*Sold loose by weight or in 4-lb. decorated tins, also in ½, 1, and 1-lb. tins*

**See that name is on each piece of paper in which Toffee is wrapped.**

E. SHARP & SONS, LTD., Maidstone.

SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE

# PRISONER AT THE BAR.—Rt.-Hon. EDWARD SHORTT, K.C., M.P.

## BEFORE MR. JUSTICE BULL.

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Grant the prisoner no privileges. This Court knows no distinctions of rank or station. Edward Shortt, you have been found guilty by the unanimous sense of your fellow countrymen, first of grave dereliction of public duty in your high office of Home Secretary; and, secondly, in the same connection, of a callous inhumanity, so bloodless and brutal as almost to transcend the bounds of belief. On each of these counts there is an abundance of evidence, none of which it appears you are able to rebut. However, before I go further I must hear what you have to say.

PRISONER: In the first place, my Lord, I take exception to the jurisdiction of the Court. As a Cabinet Minister I am entitled——

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Silence, prisoner. This is sheer impertinence. As a Minister of the Crown you are entitled to as much, and no more, than the lowliest citizen who stands at the bar of this Tribunal—bare and simple justice. As regards the Court's jurisdiction I will have you know that it derives from the sovereign authority of British people.

PRISONER: I fall back, my Lord, on a complete denial of the charges. They are the invention of malice and envy, the unscrupulous slanders of my foes.

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Be careful prisoner. Listen while I recall an episode which may move your heart, if it does not stir your conscience. A few months ago a young soldier at Crowborough, engaged on police duty, sustained a terrible blow on the head, the effect of which might easily have been to end his life then and there. He survived, but developed certain marked eccentricities of manner, and some weeks later murdered his sweetheart at Plymouth. On his trial before Mr. Justice Coleridge only a single mental expert was called, and he gave it as his opinion that Saunders had been so seriously affected by the injury to his head as to be unaccountable for his actions. Against this testimony there was only the report of the prison doctor, who had seen nothing abnormal in the prisoner's conduct while in custody. So there it was. In due course Cyril Saunders was convicted of murder. A week ago he was hanged.

PRISONER: In what way, my Lord, can this rambling episode be brought home to me?

MR. JUSTICE BULL: In the name of decency, man, stop this fooling. We are dealing with the tragic issues of life and death, with the breaking of a father's heart, with a mother's agony and tears. You know as well as I do that you were asked in the House of Commons, on the day preceding this boy's execution, to postpone the dread operation of the law for a single week, so as to permit of a proper inquiry into the poor lad's mental state. This simple boon, this bare act of justice, you callously, brutally refused. All the tragic circumstances were within your knowledge. You knew that this brave lad had volunteered for Army service at the age of 15 years, that his gallantry and good nature were a byword wherever he was known, that everything pointed to insanity as the parent of his crime. Yet you refused a week's respite. Now that you need mercy, I confess I can find little in my heart.

PRISONER: This, after all, was a single episode, my Lord. On other occasions I have acted as a humane Minister should.

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Never, prisoner. There was the pitiful case of Ellen Sullivan, the poor 17-year-old girl who gave birth to a child while on remand in Holloway Prison. Need I recall the facts? Are your dreams never haunted by the forms of that dead child-mother and her baby? The girl had been convicted of no crime, she was awaiting trial upon a trumpery charge of disorderly behaviour, yet she was locked in a miserable cell, denied the comfort of human society, and left to struggle with the agony of birth untended and alone. Mother and child paid the forfeit. Both died under the ordeal.

PRISONER: Am I charged with their murder?

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Technically, no. But you are charged with, and convicted of, a brutal indifference to the painful facts of the case as unfolded in the Press and in the House of Commons, and with refusing to stir a finger to alter the abominable conditions that made the tragedy possible. Have you done anything on these lines yet?

PRISONER: I have been busy, my Lord.

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Aye, busy!—busy as you were when you allowed the country to swarm with enemy aliens, in spite of protests pouring in from every corner of the land. Also, I must add, evasive and disingenuous—as you were when your attention was called to the fact that a German woman, Caroline Hanemann, had lived at 10, Downing Street, during the critical days of the war. Yes, prisoner, and callous as you were when you were appealed to on behalf of a poor girl named Elsie Smith, who, in circumstances of the most pitiable tragedy, had been sent to prison for the "murder" of her infant child. As usual, you dismissed the appeal of mercy with a contemptuous nod.

PRISONER: What is my sentence, then, my Lord?

MR. JUSTICE BULL: Obviously you can no longer hold high office as a Minister of the Crown. I wish it were possible to give you in your own person a taste of the "justice" you have so heartlessly administered, of the misery that was Ellen Sullivan's, of the agony that preceded poor Cyril Saunders' unjust death. Still, true justice is merciful. The decision of this Court, which even a Home Secretary has no power to revise, is that you forthwith resign your office, and never again enter the service of the Crown. Remove the prisoner.

## MORE "SOULLESSNESS."

### BEREAVED MOTHER AND SOLDIER SON.

During the war, military exigencies often justified the retention in the Army of men with a good claim to be released. But we have beaten Germany, and recruiting is officially stated to be satisfactory. However, take the case of Private Garton, one of a family in which all the men served in the war. The father and one son were killed, two others were so badly wounded that they are maimed and incapacitated for life, while this last one is still serving. His widowed mother has a young crippled daughter, unable to earn a living, while his other sister is dying of tuberculosis. In these circumstances, the bereaved mother applied for the release of Private Garton on compassionate grounds, and on this being refused raised the sum of £35 to "buy him out," but this has also been declined. When the question was recently raised in the House of Commons, the defence put forward for the War Office by the Parliamentary Secretary was as thin as it was callous. He appeared to be satisfied that the matter was not one for "compassionate consideration," because Mrs. Garton has an income of £2 4s. 2d. a week, which he evidently considers an ample competence. He also denied that she had difficulty in finding the £35, on the ground that Private Garton's former employer, who is ready and willing to re-engage him at good wages, advanced her the money. That is a mere heartless quibble. If the military authorities are not inclined to reconsider their decision on the grounds of common humanity, they may perhaps be impressed by the argument that such treatment is not exactly conducive to recruiting.

## A POISONED MAN.

### THE RESULT OF NATIONAL SERVICE.

Mr. Champ, of Ramsgate, is now an inmate of the Poor Law Infirmary, Minster. His wife and three little boys, the eldest only six years, are on the verge of starvation in two top rooms. The mother, who expects another child early next year, is striving to exist on 7s. 6d. a week, reduced Sickness Benefit. Champ, now 66, volunteered for National Service in 1914, and, being an expert sheet metal worker, was set to his trade by the Ministry of Munitions. At Bexley Heath he contracted lead poisoning. He ascribes this to unhealthy working conditions. All his life he had worked in the same trade, and had remained immune. He had laid up for six weeks, and then, though still ill, was sent to work at Crombie, Scotland. The doctor there promptly sent him home, declaring it was a shame that a man in his state of health should be subjected to a journey of 450 miles. On and off he continued to toil on munition work until the Armistice. Since then, physicially and financially, he has gone down hill. His Ramsgate doctor declares emphatically that lead poisoning is the cause of all, but Champ can get no recompense. The other medical men, who treated him in the first instance and diagnosed the same trouble, gave him no certificate to that effect, for what reason it is hard to say, because in their own minds they must be assured of the fact. And so the poor fellow is in the Infirmary, compulsorily leaving wife and little ones, after a hard and bitter fight, to God knows what fate. We have sent Mrs. Champ a sum from our fund to relieve her immediate necessities, but it is quite clear to us that the responsibility lies upon the State to mend matters.

## THE VICAR AND THE FLAT.

### LANCASHIRE CLERGYMAN'S KIND OFFER.

In the *Manchester Guardian* appeared an advertisement of a flat to let. This attracted the notice of an ex-soldier, a married man with three young children, whose wife has lived in apartments for four years. These facts were stated in a letter to the advertiser, whose reply we give below:—

Walmersley Vicarage,
Bury, Lancs.

Dear Sir,—As we have received so many applications for the flat, I am sorry but compelled to cyclostyle my replies. The Vicarage is about 12 mins. tram ride from Bury, which has a twenty minutes' electric train service to Manchester. The gardens and other surroundings are quite delightful. The flat consists of three large rooms, one of which is fitted as a kitchen with slop-stone and gas stove. Also bathroom and w.c. (separate) . . . The rooms are unfurnished, but if desired, the bedroom can be furnished for no extra charge. The rent is 3 guineas a week, payable weekly, to be reduced after 6 months if mutually agreeable. The rooms may be seen at any time except Friday. Yours faithfully,
H. DARROLL SMITH.

We are aware that the poverty of some livings compels their incumbents to find other means of adding to their incomes. We do not know whether this is actually the case with the Rev. Darroll Smith—although we believe that the gross value of the living is only £320, with house—but if so we fear that he is likely to defeat his own ends by asking an ex-soldier with a wife and three young children three guineas a week for three unfurnished rooms, even with the doubtful promise of a reduction in rent at the end of six months "if mutually agreeable." What a delightfully ingenuous touch!

## FARM LABOURER SECURES FORTUNE.

### OUR MAMMOTH FOOTBALL PRIZE WON.

We are happy to be able to announce that two readers have succeeded in correctly forecasting the results of thirteen of the fourteen matches played on November 27th, and thus divide the record prize of £1,500 offered in our 13th Football Competition. Their names and addresses are: William Frizzel, of Chapelhill, Peebles, and Richard Noble, of 11, Dalton Road, Askam-in-Furness, Lancs. Our representative, interviewing Mr. Frizzel at his work, found Chapelhill to be a farm near the historic Scottish town, and that Mr. Frizzel's occupation is that of farm worker. He is about 26 years of age, and is of a much higher degree of intelligence than is usual with people following his occupation. A farm hand all his life until then, in 1917 he joined the Army, serving in the 350th Siege Battery of the R.G.A. He was present during the Ypres campaign, and was wounded twice by shrapnel. Demobbed in 1919, he married and settled down again on the land.

*Mr. William Frizzel.*

Whilst with the forces he used to play football, a game in which he has always been interested—indeed, directly he returned to civil life he commenced sending in coupons in connection with football competitions in the Sunday papers, but finally selected this journal because, as he truly put it, "it offers the biggest prizes." He has, however, never won anything until now, although he and a friend used to watch carefully the form and progress of various teams and expend considerable thought in making their final selections. Mr. and Mrs. Frizzel built at one time great expectations upon the successful coupon, but gradually their high hopes cooled as they began to think that one at least of the other competitors must have given every result correctly. When told the good news, Mr. Frizzel was ploughing—and our representative was struck with the skilful manner in which he drove a straight furrow on hilly ground. He expressed his natural delight, saying that the prize would be particularly welcome, as he wanted to get away from farm work in order to take up something better—a wage of 45s. a week was not attractive to a young and intelligent married man. Our readers will, we are sure, join us in the hope that this handsome sum may prove for him the Open Sesame to a prosperous and happy career. Next week we shall publish the personal story of Mr. Noble, who also wins the very substantial sum of £750.

## SUB-OFFICE SLAVERY.

### PALTRY PAY OF RURAL POSTAL SERVANTS.

A pitiful pen-picture of the conditions of employment which obtain in some of our rural sub-post offices is presented by a correspondent who writes from a Norfolk village: "I have a sister who, with her step-mother, keeps a sub-post office here, and the wage she gets is a disgrace to the Government. My sister's duties begin at 7 a.m., and the office closes at 7 p.m., and for the transaction of all branches of postal work, telephone, etc., she only receives 25s. a week. Out of this have to be found the cost of maintenance, rent, rates, and now unemployment insurance. They have nothing else coming in, their little business having been lost during the war." Truly a characteristic example of the callous ineptitude of our squandermania rulers.

## OUR CHRISTMAS POOR FUND.

### YULETIDE GIFTS FOR SUFFERING LONDONERS.

In accordance with our custom at this time of the year, we appeal to the generosity of our readers for funds to purchase food, clothing, toys, sweets, etc., for distribution amongst the poor at Christmas time. Our plan is—and it is one which has always met with the approval of our readers—to buy tickets from local tradesmen, on presentation of which these necessaries and modest luxuries may be taken home for family consumption. Left-off clothing, boots and other wearing apparel are highly welcome, and will be carefully sorted by a band of voluntary helpers and given in quarters where most urgently required. Toys, games—anything suitable for children—will, too, be thankfuly received.

Subscriptions should be forwarded direct to our offices, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2., but all parcels of clothing, etc., should be sent to the JOHN BULL Depot, 25, Church Road, London, E.9.

Every donation will be gratefully received and gladly acknowledged.

Will *you* help?

## A CURIOUS GUARANTEE.

### SPENCER'S £200 DEPOSITS FROM EMPLOYEES.

Mr. H. Spencer, trading as the Spencer Picture Framing, Portrait and Enlarging Co., at 57, Kensal Road, Westbourne Park, London—also at Hammersmith, Bristol, and Bridgwater, and with "branches being opened in industrial centres throughout England"—seems a man of some ingenuity. He advertises for branch managers, prepared to put down £200. In return, the applicant is to receive a salary of £4 a week as manager of a new branch to be opened by him, plus a third of the profits of that branch. Spencer agrees to refund the £200, with 5 per cent. interest per annum, at the expiration of the agreement, and to ensure complete repayment, the manager is given a lien on the general assets, inclusive of book debts, on the particular branch "and of any sub-branches which may be in existence." But what is this security really worth? It is to be presumed that the manager will not desire, in normal circumstances, to end the agreement so long as the branch under his control and any sub-branches are paying. If not paying, what prospect is there of the assets being sufficient to cover the repayment of his money with interest? Really, it seems a case of each of Spencer's employees providing his own security and working capital, and of the whole matter being a speculation without risk on Spencer's part.

Any energetic man with £200 capital will probably do better to start a business of his own, despite the temptation held out by such statements as "experience in this line of business is not a necessity; the duties consist principally of receiving and carefully entering goods and cash received from agents, collectors and customers; a manager's salary should be doubled by his share of the profits within the first six months, and continue to rise each week." Some of the terms of the agreement, too, are—in the words of the comedian—"too easy": for instance, the manager is not debarred from engaging in any other enterprise so long as it is not in the same line of business, while the hours are not onerous—the starting time being 10.30 a.m., with a whole day's holiday on the "usual early closing day of the district." The £200 is payable to Mr. Spencer upon the signing of the contract, but we think anyone contemplating taking such a post—of which there must be many vacant, for the letter and agreement are manifolded—would do well to content himself with the offer of a fidelity guarantee of an Insurance Company.

*Nowadays it's Barker & Dobson Chocolate*

AND

Barker & Dobson Chocolate Liquid Fruits in particular.

Founded in 1834, the firm of B. & D. Ltd., Everton, Liverpool, is renowned for the wholesomeness and purity of their Walnut Toffee and other specialities.

If any difficulty in obtaining Barker & Dobson's wholesome and Delicious Chocolate or Toffee, send 3d. for postage, name and address of Shopkeeper, when a free sample will be sent—Remember Barker and Dobson's cost no more than the ordinary kinds.

*BARKER & DOBSON (1919) Ltd., EVERTON——LIVERPOOL.*

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Here is overwhelming evidence that Winox Wine Food actually guarantees benefits, and is universally acknowledged far superior to all others.

Try one bottle and your faith in other Tonic Wines will be severely shaken.

LARGE **6/-** SIZE

*Obtainable at all Licensed Grocers, Chemists, and Wine Merchants.*

# EASTBOURNE MURDER CHARGE.

## THE "PUBLIC DEFENDER" DEMAND.—GREENWOOD'S ORDEAL.—MR. BOTTOMLEY'S BILL.

By W. CHARLES PILLEY (Assistant Editor).

WITHIN a few days will commence, at the Lewes Assizes, the trial of the two men, Field and Gray, accused of the murder of poor Irene Munro on the lonely "Crumbles" at Eastbourne. The defence of the prisoners will be in the hands of that brilliant and resourceful criminal advocate, Sir Edward Marshall Hall, K.C., whose triumph in the Greenwood case is fresh in the public mind, and "with him," as the correct phrase is, will be Mr. J. D. Cassels, whose defence of the accused during the police-court proceedings was an extremely capable performance. It is no secret that, left to their own devices, the prisoners would have had no hope whatever of any such brilliant defence, that the services of these eminent counsel have been retained by, and at the expense of, JOHN BULL—in keeping with the policy of Mr. Horatio Bottomley, M.P., who has, from time to time, pleaded strenuously and worked hard for the establishment of a "Public Defender" as part of the machinery of State. It is to this aspect of the matter that I desire once again to direct special attention. The reform in question is, in my opinion, scandalously overdue.

### THE GREENWOOD CASE.

The recent Greenwood case affords a powerful illustration. By the unanimous verdict of his countrymen, this unfortunate man was found guiltless upon the terrible charge of wife murder. But what might the result have been had he been a poor man, unable to pay for the services of a competent advocate, skilled to detect and expose the flaws in the case for the Crown? The answer may be, of course, that the cause of Justice would have triumphed by its own inherent virtues. But I am more than doubtful. Law is a tricky business at the best, and there are many pitfalls, even for the innocent; moreover, even the flimsiest network of circumstantial evidence can be made to look terribly damaging in the hands of practised Crown advocates eager for a conviction. It is a sound instinct which prompts the Man in the Street to demand that, just as there is a Public Prosecutor, paid by the State to establish the guilt of accused persons, so there shall be a Public Defender to vindicate the claims of innocence. After all, there is justice as well as mercy in the old aphorism that "better ten criminals should escape than one innocent person be convicted"—especially when conviction means hanging, as in the Eastbourne charge it undoubtedly would. Of course, it will cost money, but when the time comes I shall be prepared to suggest to the Government certain easily practicable reforms in legal administration which will more than compensate for the cost of the Public Defender.

### UNJUST CONVICTIONS.

Moreover, there are some reforms of so imperative a character, and related so closely to the fundamental demands of justice, that no mere consideration of expense can be allowed to stand in the way. This, no doubt, will be the view taken if ever it should become necessary to quarter the great hospitals upon the ratepayers or to make their support a burden upon the Imperial Exchequer. The same principles should hold where the great issues of life and liberty are at stake. In this connection it is instructive to look through the reports of the Court of Criminal Appeal, and to notice the number of instances in which convictions are quashed and sentences of imprisonment remitted. It is a fair inference that in many of these cases no conviction would ever have been recorded had the prisoner been properly defended in the Court of first instance. We all remember the story of the convicted man who appealed to the Bench for mercy on the ground of "the extreme youth of his learned Counsel." It implies no unkind reflection upon the members of the Bar who now handle Poor Prisoners' defences to say that the present arrangements fall far short of that measure of all-round justice which is demanded by the now keenly awakened conscience of the nation. If we interpret the phrase literally, there is no truth in the gibe that in this country there is "one law for the rich and another for the poor." But I can forgive any poor person who comes to this bitter conclusion. It is the merest common-place to say that, once contact with the law is established, the possession of money gives an enormous advantage to any suitor, whether in the Civil or Criminal Courts—not because of any unfairness on the part of the Judges or of any inherent defects in the law itself, but simply because in most cases skilled advocacy is essential, and among lawyers, as in other professions, the fees of talented practitioners are beyond the poor man's purse. Last year, when Mr. Bottomley introduced his "Public Defender" Bill, I had every hope that it would secure a swift and easy passage into law, and I still believe that, as soon as the ear of Parliament can be obtained, the advocates of this measure will find their task an easy one. If a criminal is to be punished—as, if convicted, he must be—let us not have it on our consciences that he had less than a fair English trial through the fact that he could not afford the expense.

### MR. BOTTOMLEY'S BILL.

Consequently the proprietors of this journal have undertaken the defence of the two men charged with the Eastbourne Beach murder, as they did in the earlier cases of William Starchfield and Ethel le Neve. Surely this system that leaves public justice to be helped out by private enterprise is seriously at fault. When at school we were taught the noble provisions of Magna Charta, under which it was laid down "to none will we sell, to none will we delay, to none will we deny, right or justice." That noble Charter lacks completion till the Public Defender Bill is law.

## WHAT AN INQUEST REVEALED.

### SEVEN WEEKS WITH BROKEN SPINE AND RIBS.

That is a curious and disquieting story recently unfolded before Dr. Ingleby Oddie, the Westminster Coroner, during the enquiry into the death of Hannah Poultney. This poor old woman, 84 years of age, was knocked down on October 9 by a motor car, and taken to Westminster Hospital, suffering terrible agonies. Subsequently, the Hospital doctor asked her daughter to remove her, stating that it would not hurt her to be taken away in a taxicab, and eventually she died in the daughter's home. The post-mortem examination revealed that the poor old woman was suffering from a broken spine and five broken ribs. We are disposed to accept the medical evidence that it was difficult to detect these injuries during life owing to their position, but we associate ourselves with the Coroner's remark that "it would have been better to have taken an X-ray photograph," as the injuries would then have been perceived at once, and Mrs. Poultney "would not have been subjected to the distress of being removed while suffering from fractured ribs." "Distress" is a remarkably mild description of what must have been terrible agony. Dr. Evans, the senior House Surgeon, told the Coroner that if anyone was to blame it was himself, and that "it would not have been difficult to use the X-rays," which would "certainly have cleared the matter up." After this frank admission, we may hope that such an omission will not be repeated.

## SACKING THE SMALL-HOLDER.

### HIGH-HANDED WRONG DONE AT HILLINGDON.

The Middlesex County Council is planning a gross outrage on its small-holders at Hillingdon, near Uxbridge. Eight ex-Service men were provided with holdings on 64 acres of land. Some have done well, and even the least successful are content to carry on. Any partial failure is the result of the Council forgetting its promise to provide pig-sties and houses. Pluck and perseverance have surmounted that trouble. One man has built his own cottage out of an Army hut and made his own sties. He has 50 pigs and hundreds of fowls, and has doubled his capital. That fact shows what the men can and do wrest from a field that was bare when they entered upon it. But yet the Council has suddenly come to the conclusion that the land is "unsuitable," and tells the men that they must go and try elsewhere. No regard whatever is paid to their wishes or to the value of the work already accomplished. They are simply to be turned off the land they have won into cultivation. It all seems unreasonable, unless we are to credit the local opinion that the objection to the small-holders comes from farmers and breeders of the district, who are alarmed by the competition of energetic men. Certainly the notion of turning adrift these eight settlers on the land is harsh in the extreme, as well as being an inexplicable reversion of principle and a wanton disregard of promises openly made.

## THE EXTRA PENSION LIMIT.

### HARD LINES IN MANY DESERVING CASES.

Unquestionably the regulation under which no ex-Civil Servant can receive the new increase unless his means, "inclusive of pension or pensions," are "less than £150 a year if unmarried, or £200 a year if married," is very hard lines in many cases. A man we know retired in ill-health, after 24 years' service, on a pension of £160. His wife, six children, and himself lived quietly and respectably on that meagre sum until war broke out. Then he had to find work of some sort to win the bread of life, dear and scant. "I secured," he informs us, "a night clerkship in a bakery, bringing me in another £3 a week—making my income, in all, £6 odd. I am the only wage-earner in my household, and I am barred from help under the scheme to increase pre-war pensions—and God knows how I looked forward to getting some help. In order to educate, dress decently, and nourish our children, my wife and I go on the shortest of short commons, and are content to wear very old and very shabby clothes. Now I am penalised for my industry." It was such a hard job for Parliament to get these increased pensions out of the Government that we have very small hope of any amelioration in the condition as to means. It has to be recognised that there must be some sort of a limit to the national pensions bill—which has to be paid in greater part by working citizens without pensions. However, it does make hard cases.

# a Christmas Bargain

## Get it before Christmas: Pay for it *after* Christmas.

"HERE ARE ALFREDS SCHOOL BOOTS SOLED OUT AGAIN - AND SHOE MENDERS CHARGES ARE RIDICULOUS THESE DAYS!"
DONT WORRY DEAR GIVE 'EM TO ME I'LL DO THEM!
I'VE JUST DONE MY OWN!

Why pay what boot repairers ask
When cobbling's such an easy task.

Book Buying is the only Christmas buying we do not regret when Christmas is over, especially when the books we buy are those that make us more efficient and that teach us how to make money and to save money. "The Amateur Mechanic," compiled by skilled craftsmen in simple non-technical language with helpful Instruction by Pictures and Diagrams, is

THE

# "Do it Yourself"

# Book Guide

Wallpapers are with ease renewed
No need for workmen to intrude.

## It Teaches You How

## To Make and to Mend, to Alter and Adapt and Improve Things Used in the Home, the Office, the Works, the Field and the Garden.

And why enlist the upholsterer's aid
When lino is so simply laid.

### *A few of the subjects dealt with:*

How to make soap—To mend windows—To cure smoky chimneys, damp walls and leaky roofs—To paint and paper a room—To use tools—To make and set up tents—To build a boat and to make a canoe, a canvas canoe, etc.—To erect a sundial—To make and mend boots and shoes—To make a pair of hand-sewn boots—To repair a plaster ceiling—To make a tiled hearth—To tile walls—To repair water taps—To make a child's folding mail cart—To overhaul and repair a bicycle, a motor-cycle, a motor-car—To do ticket and sign-writing—To make and repair barometers—To waterproof cloth, coats, etc.—To make birdcages, aviaries, etc.—To build poultry houses, cycle sheds, work shops, greenhouses, etc.—To cut glass, bottles—All about galvanising—All about syphons—To make hearthrugs from slips of cloth—To make rubber stamps—Home-made drilling machines—How to make a leather suit case—How to upholster old chairs, couches, etc.—To warm two rooms from one grate—To make fireproof paper, waterproof paper and tracing paper—To fit a house with electric bells, with speaking-tubes—To repair and clean sewing machines—To put a white enamel finish on furniture—To polish shells and pebbles (for necklaces, etc.)—To make incandescent mantles—Gilding metals, etc.—To make a hot-water towel rail—To mount maps—All about the various operations in boot repairing; putting on new toe-caps, heel patches, ankle supports, back lining, etc.—To cure damp walls—To ebonise oak—To grind razors—To make a wooden harp—To repair faults in domestic hot-water supply—To protect waterpipes from frost—To make an "over-door" shelf—To make an ottoman chair from an old cask—To renovate old brown boots—To make a gas-bracket so that food can be heated on it—To mend a marble-top table—To thatch a roof—To harden and temper steel—To join two pieces of iron—To polish and mount horns—To lay carpets and lino, etc., etc.

When paint requires renewing, you
Can do it—very cheaply too!

## Hundreds of Buyers Have Written to Praise It.

### ARE YOU A MOTORIST?

*"The Motor Cycle" says:*

"In 'The Amateur Mechanic' we come across special articles which should interest our readers, such as those on Filing, Screw-cutting, whether by lathe or by hand. How to use Spanners, Metal Turning, Metal Spinning, an article on the Overhauling of the Motor-car, another on the Motor-cycle, Taper Turning, Home-made Drilling Machines, Emery Discs, Bobs, and Wheels, Hardening—and one on Fitting up a Workshop for Motor Repairs. . . . The Motorist and cyclist will find much to learn from this well-written and copiously illustrated work. . . . We have had a copy of 'The Amateur Mechanic' in our possession for some years, and many useful hints and tips have been gathered from it. . . . It should find a place in the library of every practical motor cyclist."

### SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND.

Mr. MAXWELL, Hett Mill, Croxdale, Durham, writes:—

"I cannot but let you know how valuable I have found the books, not only as a great saving in cash, but they are interesting and instructive. . . . The work is so easy to understand. Everything comes to me to be done now: I sometimes say, "Look what 'The Amateur Mechanic' has let me in for."

### IT SHOWS YOU HOW TO BEGIN.

Mr. P. OGLESBY, Silks Farm, Wye, Kent, says:

"I am pretty handy at doing most jobs, but my difficulty has always been in not knowing what tools to use and how to commence any job; that is where the books are so excellent, a child should be able to understand the instructions, and the best of all are the illustrations. One could almost learn to do any job without any letterpress."

### £100 POUNDS WORTH OF INFORMATION.

Mr. A. W. ADAMS, Ponders End, Middlesex, writes:—

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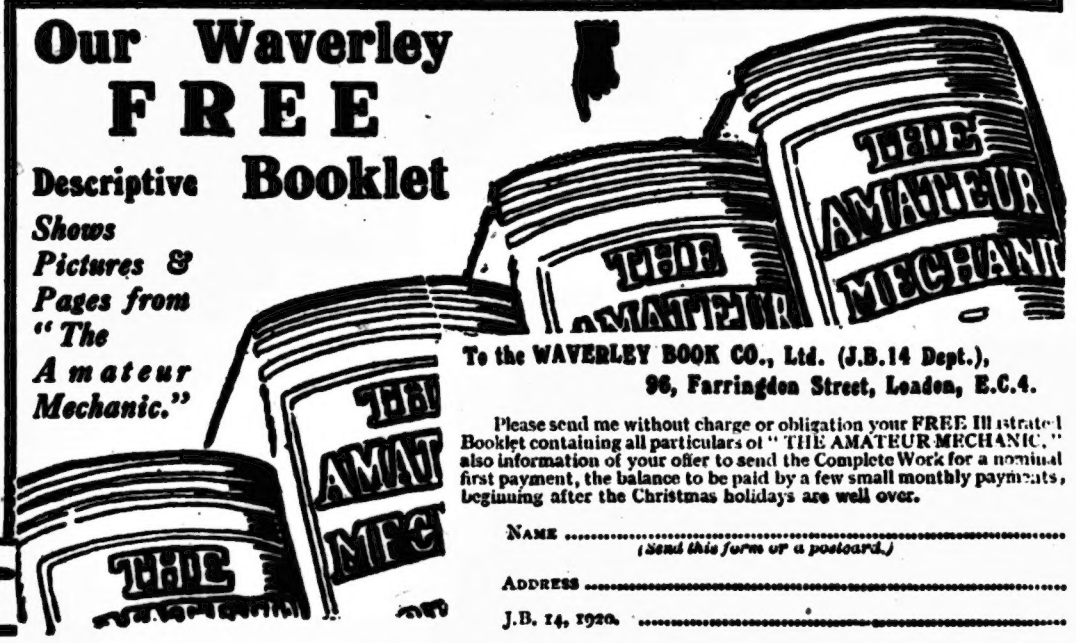


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# CANDID COMMUNICATIONS.

*This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties, and, occasionally, Nonentities.*

**To the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Justice.**

MY LORD,—Permit me to echo the very dignified rebuke administered by you to Counsel in the course of a case in which he put to a moneylender the question, "A Jew, I suppose?" Such a remark, as you pointed out, produces "an unpleasant impression," and although Counsel may consider it their duty to create an atmosphere of prejudice against a witness, they overstep the bounds of what is permissible when they seek to use his race or religion against him. I note with special satisfaction that your attitude in the matter was endorsed by your brother Judges, and it is to be hoped that the incident may serve as a warning to those practising in our Courts of Law, which rightly pride themselves on knowing no distinction of creed or nationality. JOHN BULL.

**To the Rt. Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dr. Winnington Ingram, Lord Bishop of London.**

DEAR "LONDON,"—On the occasion of the twenty-third anniversary of your consecration as Bishop of London, I should not like you to notice that I am absent from the very many colleagues, friends and well-wishers, ecclesiastical and social, who present their congratulations. I offer them to you with the greater pleasure because, looking back over that period of nearly a quarter-of-a-century, I find my differences with you have been rather frequent than few, and I have no doubt that, with your hand on your heart, your Lordship is quite able to return the compliment. These things necessarily happen among imperfect men in a not very perfect world. They do tell us that we all go the same way Home; and, if this is truth, then assuredly we shall know each other better when the mists have rolled away. My Lord, I greet you with all sincerity. London loves you much; I am not sure that it does not owe you more. In you, the Church can say, in the words of the Psalmist, "Behold a great priest who in his days pleased God."

JOHN BULL.

**To the Directors, Westfield Paper Mill Company, Ltd., Bathgate.**

GENTLEMEN,—The report of your generous treatment of the returned soldiers in your employment has given me very great pleasure. To present forty-one ex-Service men each with a gold hunter lever watch, and fourteen bereaved mothers and other relatives of the fallen with gold memorial brooches, was a graceful act, and a splendid example to other firms whose treatment of their returned employees has left much to be desired. On behalf of all the lads who have served, I thank you. JOHN BULL.

**To Mrs. Mary Lindley, Doncaster.**

DEAR MARY,—That was a pertinent query you put to the Doncaster Borough Court the other day, when Harry Davis, of Gordon Street, was summoned under the ridiculous old Act for Sunday trading. You, who visited his shop to buy sweets for your child in the Infirmary, asked the sapient Bench whether there was any more harm in doing that than in buying a pint of beer for Sunday's dinner. I can find no record of the Magistrates' reply to this poser. They probably appreciated the point of it, but had no choice other than to fine you and Harry 5s. each. Which is a further proof that "the Law is a ass." JOHN BULL.

**To Councillor A. Goodere, Town Council, Derby.**

DEAR FORGETTER,—After your election, you made a speech—just when you should have ceased from babbling. You said you had been accused of threatening to County-court a man for 9d., and added, "If anyone can prove that, I will give all I possess." Well, I can prove it. In 1909 you actually did County-court a man for 9d., alleged due from his little son, who sold papers for you—I hold the official documents. When that 9d., with 1s. costs, was paid into Court, man, wife, and two children had 16s. 9d. left for the week. As a Labour man, is not your conscience touched? I observe that you now remember the facts, the 9d. summons being "to protect your business interests." But your memory was a bit slow. Nobody wants "all you possess," but don't you think something is due to redeem your plighted word?

JOHN BULL.

**To Councillor Bartlett, Sandown, I.O.W.**

SIR,—If the people of Sandown allow you to lead them by the nose, it will not be very long before they are enveloped in what has been picturesquely described as "the ghastly gloom of a puritanical Sunday." For under your auspices the preposterous puritans of the town are making demands upon the District Council which aim at the ultimate prohibition of every form of Sunday entertainment. No concerts on the pier, the closing of the refreshment kiosk, not a newspaper or a chocolate to be sold on the sea-front, not a *char-a-banc* to be allowed on the streets. For my part, Sir, I trust the Urban District Council will have none of it. I have some justification for believing that an overwhelming majority of Sandown people desire the Pier Committee to set their faces like flint against this monstrous Methodism, and thus save Sunday for Sandown.

JOHN BULL.

**To the Rt. Hon. Lord Ashfield, Electric Railway House, St. James's Park, London, S.W.**

MY LORD,—When Parliament recently authorised you to increase the fares on the London Underground Railways, it was partly on the understanding that you would lose no time in carrying out your promise of providing additional rolling stock and other facilities, so as to lessen the present overcrowding. The fares have gone up, as they have, too, on your omnibuses, but so far from the congestion showing any signs of improvement, things are going from bad to worse. Every morning and evening, men and women are crowded together in the lifts, trains and booking halls in a manner that is dangerous, unhealthy, and revolting to decency. Try and get a move on with the delivery of those new trains, won't you? JOHN BULL.

**To Sir R. Baden-Powell, Chief Scout.**

DEAR SIR ROBERT,—In the course of your recent speech at the Efficiency Club for Women, you made the interesting admission that you chose your wife for her walk—and made no mistake. I am very glad to hear it. But when you proceeded to add: "She has proved the best wife I ever had," you indulged in a humorous sally which I fear was not appreciated by your female audience. Women are notoriously deficient of a sense of humour, and you laid yourself open to their suspicion that you have had as many wives as Bluebeard. I have already received letters about it, so must ask you to carefully select your audience when next you desire to exercise your wit. JOHN BULL.

**To S. Brigbouse, Esq., County Coroner for South-West Lancashire.**

DEAR CORONER,—I feel that I must offer you my hand. You presided at an inquest near Warrington on the remains of William Collier, a labourer, whose mutilated body was found on the railway line. Collier was a discharged soldier, had served at Mons, and had been gassed. If death were accidental or no it was impossible to discover, but you, like a good man, decided that nothing more, at any rate, should be left to chance. It seemed as though poor Collier would have a pauper's funeral. But having enquired into that matter, you instructed your officer to spend £10 on the arrangements. "Let him be carried from this place to the churchyard," you said, "as though you were carrying me. I will not let a soldier be buried as a pauper." Sir, I have nothing to add to those simple but noble words of yours, beyond my heartfelt thanks and the gratitude of every soldier in the kingdom.

JOHN BULL.

## *In the Barber's Chair* - - - - Sir Edward Carson.

'Ello, Sir Edward! 'Aven't seen you for a long time. 'Ow goes? . . . Thet's right! Things still look a bit black in Ireland I see; but I s'pose them Sinn Feiners 'll come to their senses one o' these days. But, of course, thet all depends on wot the Untidy States 'as to say about it. . . . 'Ere! Steady, Sir Edward!

* * *

Don't break up me 'appy 'ome! It's plain an' 'umble, but it's all I've got. . . . Wot, I *shouldn't talk sich absurd nonsense about America*? Thet's all right, Sir Edward. I on'y sed it to bring you on. I reckon thet you an' Bottomley 'ave spoke plainer to the Yanks then any public men in England. You've both got the pluck—thet's wot it is. I was pertickler pleased to see the way you replied to that invitation to attend an American Commission at Washington on conditions in Ireland. You sed no sich Commission 'ad a mandate or authority from the British Guv'ment, w'ich alone 'as the right to deal with the internal affairs o' the United Kingdom. 'Ear, 'ear! Thet was the stuff to give 'em! Straight from the shoulder. An' then you spoke out a bit stronger. You sed it was unwarranted interference with our affairs. An' so it is. Blarsted impertinence, *I* calls it! But I s'pose it wouldn't do for you to say that.

* * *

But we did interfere once in their business—you know, over American Slavery It wasn't a case on our part of incouragin' American traiters against their gov'ment, but of persuading the Yanks to treat negroes like 'uman bein's instead of like cattle. We persuaded 'em at larst, it's true; but we found thet the strongest argument was money, not sentiment, or the principle o' the thing. They was willing to liberate their slaves if they was compensated. Well, they was compensated; an' the British taxpayer found most 'o the money. The Yank o' to-day seems to 'ave fergot all about thet. They try to dictate to us about our treatment o' the Irish! It makes me larf!

* * *

They wasn't conscripted or rationed. They could eat an' drink wot they liked and w'en they liked. They wasn't slaves, but freer men then wot we are to-day! So I'm glad you told the Americans orf. They want it now an' again. Not as I've anythink to say against 'em. They're a young nation, an' young things is apt to be cheeky. . . . Well, goo' day, Sir Edward. 'Ere's to a 'appy Ireland some day! . . . Much erbliged. Goo' day, Sir! . . .

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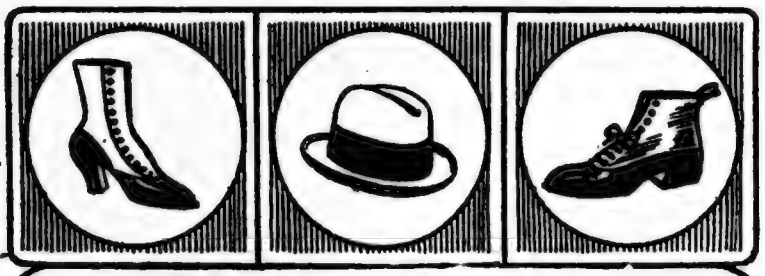

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# BURNING YOUR MONEY.

## TAXPAYERS' PROPERTY FOR AN ARMISTICE DAY BONFIRE.

IT is against our inclinations that we recall the recent Armistice Day celebrations in anything like a spirit of criticism, and we have purposely delayed comment upon the matter we now bring to the notice of our readers. We are giving the whole story now because hitherto, contrary to our expectation, the authorities have taken no action. According to the local newspapers, the town of Donibristle, in Scotland, has celebrated Armistice Day "in an interesting and conspicuous manner"! As happened in other parts of the country, the solemn celebrations of the early morning were followed later in the day by what, in provincial slang, is known as a "beano." There were vocal and instrumental concerts, dancing on an extensive scale, and other gaieties, most of the festivities being arranged by a section of the Royal Air Force quartered in the town. The crowning event of the revels was a huge bonfire, maintained for hours and reaching a level of brilliance which, it is safe to say, has never been exceeded on the 5th of November. The work of keeping the fire burning was undertaken with great gusto by the troops and their zealous assistants, and no doubt the sport was highly enjoyed by the bulk of the inhabitants. However, we fancy that when the full facts are disclosed, the level-headed Scottish taxpayer may reflect somewhat ruefully upon the evening's recreation, for the revellers were burning valuable Government stores. At Donibristle there has been for some time past a huge "dump," consisting for the most part of a miscellaneous assortment of furniture, chairs, chests of drawers, buckets, basins, and a hundred and one other things which go to make up the domestic paraphernalia of a large camp. Many of these articles were in perfectly new condition some having not even been removed from their wrappers, and although the goods had been considerably exposed to the weather, it is estimated that they were still worth a very considerable sum of money. This was the material that the Armistice Night revellers seized upon for their amusement. The fact that the property in question was not theirs, but belonged to the nation as a whole, seems never to have entered their heads. It was combustible material, and the bonfire must be kept alight, so tables, chairs and other wooden articles were flung recklessly into the flames, until at one time it appeared that the whole of this valuable "dump" would be reduced to ashes to make a Donibristle holiday. The variety of material was amazing; and, as they say in the vernacular, it was "some" bonfire, an occasional fillip being given to the conflagration by the hurling in of planks of all sizes, rolls of cork linoleum, and expensively upholstered settees. At the base, the diameter of the bonfire was from forty to fifty feet, while at its hottest and happiest it reached a height of as much as thirty-five feet. In order to keep the material compact, the wooden framework of certain reserve aeroplanes was placed on the outside of the heap, and to secure ample combustion, the materials were treated with oil—this not inexpensive adjunct being, no doubt, obtained in the same free and easy manner as the rest. Finally, there was an arrangement which must be traced to the promptings of genius. Actually a wire was laid from the bonfire to the Officers' Mess of the Royal Air Force and attached to an instrument for the purpose of transmitting a spark, and so starting the conflagration. As the wire had to be run nearly a quarter of a mile, this alone must have involved a very considerable expense. We can imagine the scene of festivity in the Mess when, at the psychological moment, the Junior Officer was deputed to press the button that would reveal to the public of Donibristle the extent to which reckless gaiety can overcome all other considerations in moments of excitement. And there is still something more to be said. There is a good deal of evidence to show that, to a great extent, the whole affair was pre-arranged. It was not a case of a few bold spirits run amok "on the night." The main structure of the bonfire was prepared beforehand, and long before the events of Armistice evening a great part of the Government stores had already been laid under tribute, including, among other things, a large wooden boat, which, though slightly damaged, no doubt could have been sold for a considerable price. It is even stated that the preparation of the fire had engaged the services of thirty or forty men attached to the Royal Air Force. In point of fact, the whole performance was most elaborately staged; it is due to the frolicking airmen to state that a strong picket of men was posted on duty ready to maintain order and to use the hose in case of necessity. What we should like to know is how far the arrangements were sanctioned by the Officer in Command or his immediate subordinates, and to what extent the ruthless sacrifice of Government stores was condoned by those in authority. This, after all, is the main point. No one begrudges any section of Service-men their legitimate recreation. Indeed, there is a universal disposition to make every allowance for occasional "kicking over the traces" by men who are normally subject to the rigours of military discipline and to the uninteresting routine of camp life. This, however, is a more serious matter. If a bonfire was necessary on Armistice night, nothing would have been easier than to have it arranged in the ordinary way and carried out with the aid of materials of the usual inexpensive kind. But at this point clearly the line should have been drawn. It was nothing less than monstrous that, merely for the amusement of the airmen and their friends, or for the delectation of the populace at large, hundreds of pounds' worth of public property should have been hurled into the flames. Unfortunately, there is some reason to believe that this sort of semi-official pilfering has not been altogether uncommon, and it is high time that searching enquiry was directed into the facts.

## THE RETURN OF THE HUN.

### BACK AGAIN TO HIS HOME FROM HOME.

The Hun *does* do his job while he is about it! Just now he is after the British market, with a greater zest than ever. There are people who say that he is starving. But Germany has so much mangel-wurzel that it can afford to license its home agriculturists to export tens of thousands of tons of its seed to this country—likewise seeds of many other vegetables, including cabbages, cauliflowers, tomatoes, peas, and radishes, the production of which ought to find in our own country profitable employment. A circular before us is that of a firm in Erfurt, who make their offers to some seed merchants in Bow—"and my son," discloses one of the English partners, "sleeps in France, killed by Germans." "Should our offered articles, however, be of no interest for you," say the Huns *inter alia*, "you would oblige us very much in passing our offer to a firm known to you and which handles in our articles. You would also much oblige us in communicating us the addresses of those seed merchants who are doing business in vegetable flower, and feeding beet seeds. We will be pleased to give you every informations desired by you about German relations." In other words, if you cannot or will not deal with us, do be nice enough to tout for us! It is characteristic of the Hun, and because it is characteristic of him, he is coming back—coming back, dear friends, to his home from home. He is a villain, but he isn't a fool.

## NOT "THE WORST GIRL IN LONDON."

### ANOTHER PHASE OF REFORMATORY QUESTION.

That she was "the worst girl in London" was alleged in the Police Court at Kensington concerning a child of 11. She stole from shops, mixed with bad boys, was an inveterate smoker of cigarettes, and used terrible language. She smiled in Court when her record was read out, but who shall count that against her? It may have been the caustic smile of dissent. Any way, she clutched her mother's hand at the same time, holding on tightly as that poor woman answered the summons for her child's non-attendance at school. Mother is a widow, and has to maintain several children and herself on 24s. a week. This special little girl was beyond her control, playing the "charley-wag" from school in addition to her other enormities. So the Bench ordered the girl's detention in a reformatory institution for five years, the mother to pay 4s. a week towards her support. Four shillings a week—the sixth part of that widow's entire income! She and her other children will have to go short and fare worse. Had the girl been older and had she committed a more serious offence, she might have been sent to prison, her mother in such an event being called upon to pay nothing. These compulsory contributions in support of children or other relatives in reformatories, asylums and workhouses are a grievous hardship upon deserving toilers. We gravely doubt, too, whether the treatment dealt out at such an institution is the best for so young a child.

## PRINTER'S PIE.

*(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of each item published. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")*

"DOVER EXPRESS":—"Councillor Geddes suggested that the TREES WHEN CUT DOWN SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO WALK."

"GLASGOW EVENING CITIZEN" (advertisement):—"COLOURED PERSON, BLUE, GREEN, RED OR PINK, wanted."

"GREENOCK TELEGRAPH AND CLYDE SHIPPING GAZETTE":—"In a trenchant speech at the National Liberal Club to-day MR. ASQUITH dealt with seditious speech in London. HE WAS SENTENCED TO SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT."

"DAILY MIRROR":—"The BLIND man paused and LOOKED ROUND and fumbled with his hands."

"MAGNET LIBRARY":—"He . . . shook a FAT FISH at the laughing Famous Five."

"BAZAAR, EXCHANGE AND MART" (advertisement):—"GREEN BOY'S suit . . . £1."

"EAST ANGLIAN DAILY TIMES":—"It will be remembered that MISS BEATRICE —— WAS FIRST IN THE ADULT DOE CLASS at the Ipswich Show for rabbits . . . Mr. —— WAS SO DELIGHTED WITH THIS DOE THAT HE SUBSEQUENTLY PURCHASED HER TO ADD TO HIS OWN ALREADY INVINCIBLE STUD."

"HULL DAILY MAIL" (advertisement):—"Lost . . . BLACK DOG WITH PURSE, MONEY, EYEGLASS, AND PAPERS: NAME AND ADDRESS INSIDE."

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# OUR SEA POWER IN ...

## *Britain's Amazing Naval Situation—More "Dreadnoughts"?*

*By THE EDITOR.*

I AM bound this week to speak my mind on a subject which is rapidly assuming a burning importance for the British taxpayer, and, indeed, for the whole body of citizens since the war ended—the phrase is somewhat inaccurate, but let that pass; we have been a little indisposed to discuss the great question of "armaments" that in what we would like to call the "bad old days" was on all our tongues. Yet I am afraid this attitude has no more wisdom than the proverbial policy of the ostrich, which at critical moments we Britishers have been only too apt to emulate. That is to say, I am very much afraid that, if we are not careful, we shall find ourselves one of these days bang up against a crisis of large dimensions, and wringing our hands in dismay at our lack of foresight in not having realised its approach. Unless I am mistaken, clouds of this sort are already looming on the distant horizon, even if at present they be "no larger than a man's hand." I am writing in no scaremongering spirit, but in the earnest hope of persuading the statesmen of this and other nations to take time by the forelock and reinforce the foundations of Peace. Now for the main facts. In reply to a question in the House of Commons the other afternoon, it was stated that, leaving out the expenses of demobilisation and "cleaning up the mess" of the war, the British Navy since the Armistice had cost the taxpayer £154,000,000. At the same time, it was admitted that no new "capital warships" were under construction in the Government dockyards or on private slips. Now, obviously, this may be sound policy or it may be disastrous folly, and whether it is the one or the other depends entirely on what is happening in other countries—notably in America and Japan. And about this there is very little doubt. Take America first. For the moment, I am not discussing any question of policy, but simply endeavouring to ascertain the facts. The United States, for all that her then President was the great protagonist of the League of Nations, has entered "hell for leather" into the race for armaments. She is building as fast as she can—we will ask *why* presently. The "constructional programme" approved by the American Congress and now in course of execution includes no fewer than four first-class battleships to be completed by 1923, and another eight to be ready for sea by 1924-25. Remember, every one of these vessels has been laid down since the Battle of Jutland, from which naval officers the world over have drawn important lessons, although our Government has so far foolishly withheld the official report of that engagement—which I fancy might prove a powerful stimulant to the public imagination. Still, America is building on the strength of the late war's naval lessons, and building might and main. And the same with our wide-awake Ally, Japan. Here again the facts are easily available. Last July, the Japanese Parliament sanctioned estimates providing for four new battleships and four battle-cruisers—these eight new vessels, all of the most modern type, to be completed not later than 1926. It may be said, of course, and with a measure of probable truth, that America is building against Japan, and Japan against America; but Great Britain, however well assured she may be of the peaceful intentions of her rivals, cannot well be indifferent to a state of affairs which, if it persists unaltered, will rob her of the faintest claim or title to be called Mistress of the Seas. It is the plain and bounden duty of the Government to decide without delay what is to be the British policy in the light of what can only be regarded as a gathering menace to our maritime power.

### More "Dreadnoughts"?

What are we going to do? It is said that at any moment an important pronouncement may be looked for from the Admiralty, that the Naval experts have decided that as regards big battles the "Dreadnought" is still the deciding factor, and that a lavish programme of big-ship construction has already been decided upon. This, of course, is one solution of the problem—and, mark this, if no other way out can be found, we must do it or perish in the attempt. But make no mistake, it will be at a terrible financial cost. I believe I am right in saying that at present prices a modern "Dreadnought" costs £8,000,000, and I see it stated that Japan's new programme is to cost £68,000,000. In these days of heedless expenditure, we are less appalled by such a figure than we should have been a few years ago; but I fancy that, if the Naval problem, as it confronts us to-day, were expressed in terms of money, it might cause uneasy qualms to the harassed middle-class taxpayer. However, there it is. If a heavy warship-building programme is the only form of maritime insurance available, the only means of safeguarding our food supplies—of keeping intact the life-line that connects us with the Overseas granaries upon which still we are foolish enough chiefly to depend—then we must foot the bill and pray for some wizard of a Chancellor to find us the "hen-roosts to rob." But is there no other way?

### The "Acid Test."

And that brings us to policy. I recognise to the full that we do not live in a world governed by the lofty idealism of the League of Nations, that the writ of the League's Court of Arbitration does not run in America, and that there are features of the foreign policy of the United States that may well alarm thoughtful observers I am not concerned to deny. At the same time, I am not going to believe, in the absence of the most cogent and direct evidence, that it is with an eye on this country's position in the world that America is building her mammoth Navy. The same goes without saying in the case of Japan, who up to now has fulfilled her treaty obligations to the letter, leaving us no ground for complaint. I suggest, therefore, that it might be possible for Japan and Great Britain, in alliance, to offer America such guarantees as would warrant her in slowing down her naval programme, or at any rate pruning it to such an extent as to relieve Europe of suspicion as to her bellicose intentions. This, I submit, would be the "acid test" of America's sincerity. We will put behind us the extravagant

BRITANNIA: "Am I, then, no longer to rule



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# POWER IN JEOPARDY.

## ...n—More "Dreadnoughts"?—The Way to Save the Peace?

By THE EDITOR.

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idealism of Woodrow Wilson—now finally disowned by his countrymen, and driven into political obscurity; we will try to forget the breach of faith involved in America's selfish refusal to accept her obligations under the Treaty of Versailles; we will say not a word about the sources of the wealth that she now proposes to expend upon her gigantic Fleet. The dreamer Wilson now makes way for a Republican President, a man who may, I think, be taken as typically representative of the great bulk of American opinion. Very well then, it's "up" to Harding. If he values the friendship of Great Britain, if he worships honestly at the Shrine of Peace, and bears no malice towards any other Power, he will doubtless be willing to carry out an exchange of views, with the object of discovering some common basis of action in world politics, and so avoiding the necessity of huge and wasteful expenditure.

### Threatened Food Supplies.

At such a solemn Round Table, Japan might be represented, or we could separately undertake to submit to her Ministers an agreed basis of policy. Apart from some such arrangement, the British taxpayer must begin to muster his millions. There is no third course. For, say what you will, as long as we have a pound to spend or a pound's worth to protect, we cannot sit idly by and see these two great Atlantic and Pacific Powers arming themselves to the tooth against unknown contingencies. We are in no ordinary position. No vast wheat-lands comfort the vision of the English traveller; no well-stored granaries reflect the prudence of his rulers; no wise policy has served to blot out the memory of the lean years when famine might easily have decimated our island population. There is no room here for sentiment—for mawkish

...n I. then, no longer to rule the waves?"

theories, for vague aspirings towards a distant Millennium. Our life is on the sea. The very triteness of the saying is the earnest of its truth. If America—all questions of friendship apart, still largely bone of our bone, stock of our British stock—means to put us to this grim ordeal, I will not say of "battle" but of armed preparedness, then we must face it, and trust to our "fostering star." There is no time to waste in futile discussion. We must talk business, or build the ships—or America must stop building. Surely, too, this is a matter upon which we can talk in plain business terms with Japan. Towards this gallant Power, whose rise from mediæval barbarism to the highest pinnacle of civilisation, well within the space of a single century, has been the greatest romance of modern history, I have none but the friendliest feelings, and I remember with full appreciation her fidelity to her Treaty pledges during the most difficult days of the war. Moreover, I think, although I want to touch lightly upon this delicate subject, I know something of the reasons that are prompting her to lay down her great new Armada. Still, I do very strongly suggest that these are matters not for secret diplomatic intercourse, but for frank and friendly counsel between the Powers who hold in their hands the peace and safety of the world. While the war was raging, while we were bearing the full brunt of Germany's piratical submarine campaign, we used to hear a great deal from across the water about the "Freedom of the Seas," which as far as ever I could not make out was supposed to be something precious beyond rubies in the eyes of Uncle Sam. There is a sense, of course, in which we Britishers can seize upon the phrase and nail it to the masthead of the British Fleet, which for centuries has never been employed on any mission which menaced the liberty of the world. If America is sincere in her zeal for ocean freedom, if it is not simply a pose but a principle, then surely the best means of ensuring that for all time the highways of the sea shall be free to all comers whose enterprise is lawful is for the three great maritime Powers of the world to have a clear and definite understanding between themselves as to the necessary scope and extent of their naval programmes. Only let this be made clear. Great Britain will never shirk her obligations as a maritime Power. Be the cost what it may, the people of this country will see to it that no tricks are played with our first line of defence, and any Government that neglects or postpones its paramount duty in this regard will receive short shrift at the hands of an angry public.

### The Preciousness of Peace.

I make no apology for raising this question, which to me transcends most others in urgency and importance. I dare say some of my critics will tell me, as they did in the old days when I used constantly to warn them of the reality of the German menace, that in such matters silence is the only safeguard of peace. I did not believe it then, and I do not believe it now; but God knows I want no more wars! To speak quite sincerely, I do not think I could face another struggle involving the sacrifice of our fairest and bravest to the demons of Death and Destruction; in that dread event I should feel that the time had come for me to take leave of this mad world. There *must* be a way out of the dreadful dilemma created by the rivalries of nations and the unbridled lust of power. I know a little of what is going on behind the scenes, and I am not suggesting for a moment that the British Admiralty is blind to what is happening abroad or careless of its duty at home. But when all is said and done, we are a self-governing people and have a right to know the facts of the situation, and the policy that is being framed in the light of them. The Government must take us into their confidence. Whatever the necessary demands of the situation, they will be met unflinchingly. Only let us try to consider the problem sanely, and as business men should in a hard and prosaic world. Sentimentality will not preserve the peace. It failed lamentably before and will fail again. International relations are still full of snags and pitfalls, and only a sane commonsense, deliberately applied, can steer the good ship Civilisation clear of the perils that assail it. It was, I believe, a distinguished Victorian Prime Minister who once addressed his colleagues in the bland terms "Gentlemen, do let's be sensible." That is my message to the world to-day.

*In giving publicity on this page to views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters or postcards bearing name and address for publication.*

*All communications must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.*

# The PEOPLE'S PULPIT

*The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.*

*Letters and postcards for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.*

*For short acknowledgments of other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 22.*

**Jerry Built!**

All houses now being erected, and for which Government grants are applied for, should be inspected at frequent intervals by properly qualified Inspectors appointed by the Government. In many cases these houses are being put up with shoddy materials and scamped in every way possible (where it will not show when finished). The builders will be on velvet when they capture the grant, and then sell to some poor innocent who does not understand building, but *will* later on.—GEO. BYSOUTH (Hockley, Essex).

(*The danger is one against which a "Business Government" would have devised adequate safeguards.*)

**"E.P.D." and Unemployment.**

Trade experts in all branches agree that this tax is the greatest handicap that British trade has ever yet suffered and is the *chief cause* of the large number of unemployed in our midst. Practically every large concern lacks capital to extend British trade throughout the world owing to its crushing burden, with the result that the Government is forced to dole out millions among these unemployed, and in the meantime our foreign rivals are getting the orders which should come to us. Let the Government cut off or greatly reduce the tax, and unemployment will be quickly reduced to a minimum.—DAVID BOURDEN (Highbury Park, London, N.5.).

(*Unless the E.P.D. is soon called off the Chancellor will find himself in the difficulty we warned him of long ago.*)

**"Ducks and Drakes"!**

The Coalition Government got so used to spending millions a day during the war that it seems almost futile to hope that they will ever realise that "making ducks and drakes" of the public money in official waste and faddy or unnecessary legislation is a crime against the community. I trust that, as "Independent" representation increases in Parliament, the strong "Opposition" lacking in a Coalition Government will revive, so that they shall not have things all their own way. Surely it is time the Government began to realise that they are but the responsible heads of a huge "business concern" in which we are all partners!—A. CLEMVILLE (Westcliff-on-Sea).

(*The "Independents" are all for economy. Watch them and see.*)

**Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. G. Mayor.**

**Fitting the Crime.**

Until we can get Magistrates who can adequately fit a suitable punishment for serious crimes committed against children, these crimes will not decrease. What is required is a definite *minimum* sentence of, say, two years' imprisonment, together with doses of the cat, which would put a stop to the evil as it did with garrotting.—M. W. WRIGLEY (Longford Place, Victoria Park, Manchester).

(*No punishment can be too severe for those bestial offences which, as is not surprising, are on the increase.*)

**"Breeding Bolshevism."**

The University of Birmingham has appealed for £500,000, and in one week has had subscribed considerably over half that sum, namely, £253,000. I don't grudge it to the University but—when *there are 21,000 citizens unemployed here, nearly half of them ex-Service men, this sort of thing breeds Bolshevism.* For, after all, the University is not for Englishmen alone, but caters largely for foreigners whose friendliness towards this country cannot always be taken for granted. Meanwhile, the ex-Service man is wondering why he cannot be found work when so much money is forthcoming for other purposes.—G. MAYOR (Worley, Birmingham.)

**German Goods.**

I had occasion to purchase an alarm clock, and to my dismay found that the only ones I could possibly afford were of German make, those from America or Japan costing a guinea each, while the German clocks ranged from 9s. 11d. Asking why there were no English alarm clocks, I was told there were none made here, and it was not likely that any would be made. Surely some of our ex-Service men could be trained to produce these necessary articles at a reasonable price, and thus keep out the Hun?—E. D. LAW (The Avenue, West Ealing).

(*But our Government is so tender over the poor dear Germans.*)

**Shivering Travellers.**

It's about time the railway companies resumed providing fires in their waiting rooms. A long wait means possibly a fatal chill, and one often sees mothers with their little ones shivering for hours in these fireless rooms. The war is over, fares are extortionate, and the least the companies could do would be to provide reasonable comfort for passengers.—EDWARD MAYSON (Sidney Road, Southport).

(*This is a real scandal. We speak feelingly.*)

**Tommy's Mother.**

One seldom hears her mentioned. Long past 50 years of age, still patient, plodding on, trying to make ends meet and to keep from debt, hoping on for better days, still doing her bit for her boys, who are out of work and with no money. She never gets any sympathy or even a word of encouragement, yet there would be many more "on the road" if it were not for their mothers!—MRS. RUSE (Hamilton Terrace, Bexhill-on-Sea).

(*Only too true in many cases. We help wherever we can.*)

**One Man—One Job!**

I know of a case where one returned officer has been exceptionally fortunate in securing, not one, but *two* well-paid jobs—as Secretary to a County Territorial Force Association in the West of Scotland, and as Secretary to the Local War Pensions Committee of the same county. When so many of our returned officers and men are in actual need, it is most unjust that one man should hold two such jobs!—J. J. BUTLER (McClellan Street, near Glasgow).

(*The War Pensions Committee should have made a fairer choice.*)

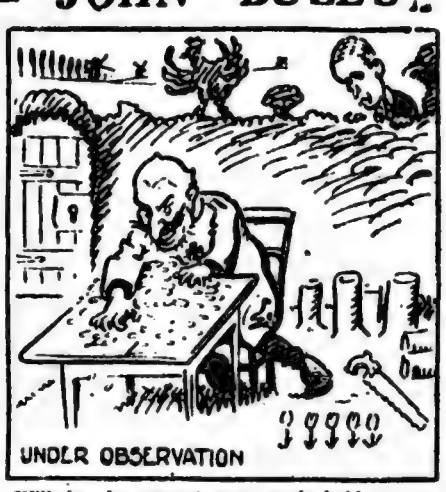
**Hint to Newsagents.**

Thousands of unemployed do not live near a library or other institution where they can see the advertisements. Why can't some enterprising and thoughtful newsagent in such districts paste the "situations vacant" columns of the best dailies outside their shops early in the morning? This would help the unemployed to make their money last the week, and it would act as a good advertisement for the shopkeeper.—F. J. QUIN (Pretoria Road, Romford).

(*We can imagine reasons "why not," but we gladly publish the suggestion.*)

## "JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

To sow seeds of Economy
The Premier might as well not try:
That precious plant can't be enjoyed
Until the Waste weed is destroyed.




Wilhelm, by current news made bold,
Gloats like a miser o'er his gold:
Which proves that one may lose a throne
Yet still a tidy fortune own!

With Sinn Fein terror now infected,
The Common's House is well protected:
Strangers are barred, and (quaint position!)
Member scans member with suspicion!

More railway trouble is foretold:
The warning may leave others cold,
But hopes of peace are oozing from us—
We should not dream of doubting Thomas!

# BARRATT'S STRIKING INVENTION.

## DOUBLE SOLE. DOUBLE WEAR.

### ON APPROVAL.

The illustration represents a DOUBLE SOLE BOOT—in other words, ECONOMY in its true sense. The boot itself is constructed from solid leather, the upper being specially selected Box Calf. The additional sole which is fitted, although rendering it eminently suitable for the winter weather, does not add appreciably to the weight, and abounds in good points. No matter how many times new soles are attached, the foundation of the boot remains undisturbed, the rigidity being maintained, and, unlike ordinary footwear, fresh "Clump" soles can be affixed so long as the other parts remain good.

This Clump sole acts as a damp-resister, giving warmth to the foot, and that uncomfortable icy feeling is unknown to the wearer.

**Contrast this with the single sole.**

During process of repairs, the foundation has necessarily to be mutilated, which eventually causes the boot to break down and be discarded, in addition to which the wet is liable to penetrate through the joint which has been made in applying the new half sole. This *cannot* occur in the boot advertised here, as the original foundation remains intact.

**36/6** POST FREE.

**For this splendidly made Guaranteed All-Leather Boot.**

THIS CLUMP SOLE ITSELF GIVES TEN WEEKS' EXTRA WEAR

No. 1655

Sizes: All sizes stocked from 5 to 12 (size 12, 1s. extra). Each size made in three different widths; medium, wide and extra wide. If size is not known, send pencilled outline of stockinged foot. Boots exchanged or money refunded if not approved.

**SPECIAL SHOW this Week at Depots:**

| | |
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| *36, OXFORD STREET, W.* | *285, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.* |
| *21 & 22, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.* | *12, TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.* |
| *87, FENCHURCH STREET, E.C.* | *67, HIGH STREET, PUTNEY, S.W.* |
| *166, STRAND, W.C.* | *18, DARLEY STREET, BRADFORD* |

*Send 3d. postage for our Beautifully Illustrated Art Catalogue of "Footshapes" for the Family.*

*All Post Orders direct to Northampton.*

## W. BARRATT & CO., LTD.

**(Dept. J), "Footshape" Boot Works, NORTHAMPTON.**



# CHRISTMAS JOY FOR GIRL OR BOY

**Why pay £8 for a German Rocking Horse when you can get a British Made**

**"JOHN BULL" GALLOPING GEE-GEE** (Patent No. 134456)

**—the finest toy for girl or boy, for only 30/-**

This Galloping Horse is made of strong wood, and has a comfortable seat covered with leather cloth. It is as near unbreakable as a toy can be, and it really gallops as you ride. Large enough and strong enough for the strongest and most active child. Ride along and gallop up and down as you go. Perfectly safe and cannot go backwards. Buy your girl or boy something really new and useful this Christmas. Only 30/- cash with order. Cross your Cheque or Postal Orders, Barclay's Bank, Newport. Carriage paid direct to your door, but send early to avoid disappointment.

**Approval for 3 days, and if not satisfied YOUR MONEY RETURNED IN FULL IMMEDIATELY.**

*Send NOW to*

**B. STONE,** The Non-Profiteering Toy Man,

**4, Godfrey Road, NEWPORT, MON.**



# GREAT DISCOVERY OF LIFE-GIVING FORCE.

## Remarkable Offer by Proprietors—Will send full month's supply to any reader of "John Bull" to be paid for ONLY IF BENEFITED.

We have a remedy which is unique in its origin and absolutely unrivalled in the marvellous scope of its curative powers. We do not ask you to accept this statement without first giving you the opportunity to test the matter for yourself—AND AT OUR RISK. We will send you a month's treatment and ask for no payment whatever, unless you can say, "Here is your money; you have earned it." If you are not in perfect health it is surely worth your while to give a trial to so easy and reliable a cure.

**NOT A PATENT MEDICINE.**

Vitæ-Ore is not a patent medicine. The British Government recognises this by exempting it from stamp duty.

Vitæ-Ore is the residue of a natural healing spring, and has been tested and approved by medical men of the highest standing.

**NATURE WORKS THE CURE.**

Eminent physicians emphasise the fact that large numbers of sufferers from severe complaints recover solely through the action of Nature. Only Nature can give new life. We rely very largely for cures upon the new abundant vitality which Vitæ-Ore gives. V-O strengthens the brain, the spine, and all vital organs, and so increases the life-force within, that diseases like Anæmia, Rheumatism, Stomach, Liver, Kidney, Nervous and other weaknesses CURE themselves. More especially nervous exhaustion, languor, fatigue, and lack of interest in life are cured. There are very few people who do not suffer from some constitutional weaknesses which are the cause of most ailments, and it is by dealing with these constitutional weaknesses so effectively that Vitæ-Ore has achieved such a great success. Vitæ-Ore is a powder. Dissolved, it prepares a chalybeate water, easy to be taken. It contains no harmful element whatever, and is prescribed for the most delicate women and children.

Women and girls who are bloodless and anæmic—pale, easily tired, short of breath when going up stairs—derive the most wonderful benefits from Vitæ-Ore.

**OVERWHELMING PROOF.**

That we are able to sell Vitæ-Ore on this Trial system and get payments for tens of thousands of packets proves V-O must benefit those who use it. If they were not benefited they would not pay.

Our offer is a liberal one. We send you a whole month's supply—no benefit no pay. And you DO pay; for you ARE benefited; you will be glad and happy to pay if you accept our offer.

This weather is just the time when you are in danger of lowered vitality. This is just the time, then, to write for Vitæ-Ore, and so strengthen your system as to help it overcome its handicap of lowered vitality.

**A CHALLENGE TO ALL HONEST SCEPTICS.**

You want improved health; then why not try Vitæ-Ore? We do not ask you to trust us; we ask you to let us trust you—with a whole month's treatment on condition that you pay nothing until and unless you are benefited. You are to be the judge. Can anything be fairer?

Vitæ-Ore has produced numberless cures in cases of

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| **Nervous Weakness and Debility.** | **Rheumatism and all "run-down" conditions due to Stomach, Liver, and Kidneys.** |
| **Dyspepsia.** | |
| **Neuritis.** | |
| **Anæmia.** | |

**Vitæ-Ore is a powerful tonic to the whole system.**

To those who for years have searched for relief from the ailment that has been their constant ghost-like companion, Vitæ-Ore comes as a blessing.

Write to-day. We are certain we can benefit you, and at our own sole risk are willing to treat you. If we cannot effect a change for good in you and place you on the road to health you have lost nothing—the loss is ours. We stake our reputation and business success on the healing powers of Vitæ-Ore treatment, and offer you the means of testing its powers. In thousands upon thousands of most obstinate cases it has effected permanent cures. Surely it is worth a trial.

**Fill in or Copy this Coupon for Free Trial of One Month's Supply.**

*This offer does not apply outside United Kingdom.*

To the THEO. NOEL CO., LTD.
(Dept. 19), 29, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me a month's supply of "Vitæ-Ore," with full direction and free book of particulars.

**I will use it according to the "Directions," and promise to report results in 30 days.**

If it does me good I will send you 4/6 (four shillings and sixpence) in payment for the month's course of treatment. If not, I will write and say so, and in that case YOU ARE TO CHARGE ME NOTHING.

Name .....

Address .....

.....


**The NATIONAL NEWS—a clean Sunday newspaper.**

*Five Guineas is paid to the writer of the most interesting letter in a brief compass, preference being given where name and address are sent for publication.*

# SILENT SUFFERERS

## *INTERESTING MEMORANDA FOR THE MIDDLE-CLASSES.*

*Letters dealing with the Middle Classes, and all communications seeking advice in regard to the "Silent Sufferers," should bear in the left-hand corner of the envelope the initials "S.S."*

**Another Contrast.**

At an R.A.F. Depôt, manned by civilians, ex-Service men employed as telephone operators are receiving £2 17s. 7½d. a week, this having been raised from £2 10s. in response to an appeal for higher pay. Labourers, also earning £2 10s. a week, put in a request for more money at the same time, and were granted £3, which is to be followed by a further increase of 5s., dating back to July. The case strikingly illustrates the discrepancy between the earnings of manual and black-coated labour.

**"Poor Persons."**

The proposal by the President of the Law Society that solicitors should undertake more work in the direction of giving legal assistance to "poor persons" raises a very important question. Originally, the "poor person" entitled to such assistance was practically confined to the lowest paid artisan class, but the rise in the cost of living has made the existing test of poverty as prescribed by the rules quite out-of-date. If due regard were paid to the actual purchasing value of the pound, thousands of Silent Sufferers, whose poverty is undeniable, would become qualified in the eyes of the law. A revision of the rules would be a boon to many people with very small incomes.

**Penalising Thrift.**

It used to be said that the average Englishman was the least thrifty of mankind, but the truth to-day is that no one is less encouraged by his Government to practise the art of saving. A case in point is the position of the pensioned Civil Servant. The Treasury recently sanctioned increases to certain classes of such pensioners, but only if their total income, when married, was under £200 a year. Consequently, a retired official with a pension of £150 who has saved enough during his working life to produce another £50, obtains no increase whatever, while the man who has made no provision for his old age or his dependents has his pension augmented. The discrimination is all the more unjust, since the pension increase is entirely based on the abnormal cost of living.

**A SIDELIGHT ON TEACHING.**

London County Council school-teachers who would normally retire at 65, under the age limit, are, it is proposed, to be retained until they reach 70. The reason is understaffing; in plain English, there are not enough teachers to go round. Such a state of affairs does not usually exist in a well-paid calling, and nothing we have ever said regarding conditions in the teaching profession reveals such a position as is shown by the L.C.C.'s proposal. We trust that when the teachers concerned eventually retire, their extra period of service will be taken into account in fixing their pension.

**UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS BARRED.**

Unfortunately, a number of those who now for the first time come within the scope of the State Unemployment Insurance Scheme are already out of work. It is provided, however, that new members shall not be allowed to claim the benefit unless they can produce cards properly stamped and showing that they were in employment for four continuous weeks prior to their present spell of misfortune. The result is that some of the worst victims of the "casual labour" system are debarred from benefit under the new scheme. Surely this is grossly unfair. —From Mr. EDWIN SOUTHCOTT, Milsom Street, Bristol, to whom a cheque for five guineas has been sent.

**DEFEATING THE PROFITEER.**

They still do some things better in France. By the terms of a Bill now before the French Parliament, the rent of furnished apartments is not to be more than 40 per cent. above the unfurnished rental, plus 10 per cent. of the value of the furniture. Similar legislation in England would prevent profiteers from obtaining up to twenty times the rental value of a house by letting it out in furnished (usually scantily furnished) rooms.

**A Record in Sweating.**

Two pounds is to-day worth perhaps as much as 16s. in 1914, so far as concerns its purchasing value. Yet a wealthy concern considers two pounds a week an adequate salary for a clerk-interpreter, with a knowledge of French, German and Russian. This disgraceful sweating would be inexcusable in the case of a single man; as the unfortunate interpreter is married, and is an ex-soldier who fought at Mons, we have no words strong enough to condemn such exploitation.

**Reward of Patriotism.**

Here is another example of exploitation. Employed as a cashier's assistant by a large firm in the Midlands at a salary of £104 a year, a young man joined the Army at the beginning of the war. He was promised reinstatement should he return, but on his demobilisation last year found his position filled by a woman (in the interests of economy) and was offered a post as ledger clerk at £130 a year, *i.e.*, at about half his pre-war salary, having regard to the present value of the sovereign. Subsequent requests for an advance have invariably been met by the assertion that his job could be filled by plenty of women willing to take less. Readers will no doubt apply the moral for themselves.

**How the Money Goes.**

"No wonder the Stationery Department costs an enormous and increasing amount," writes a correspondent. "Some months ago, I received two of the ordinary Income Tax assessment forms, one addressed to my office, one to my home. I filled up the one, returned the other, pointing out the duplication, and, on Nov. 20, the Demand Note for payment due next January came duly to hand—earlier than usual. To-day, I have received a further sheaf of official documents, consisting of yet another assessment form, two huge four-page 'explanatory forms,' closely printed on good paper, some leaflets, and a large printed envelope for reply." If all Income Tax payers are receiving similar superfluous communications, the waste of money must be enormous."


**HARMSWORTH'S NEW ATLAS** 15/6

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**OPINION**

"State price for refitting Vols. 1 and 2. I had these done locally and they have been bound with paper joints and cheap end papers. I want cloth joints and good end papers such as have been used for the Outline of History you did for me."

The Monastery Binding Co. 28, Monastery Buildings, Milton Street, Manchester.

**INSTRUCTIONS.**—When ordering place parts in correct order; put your name and address on cover of first part. Place P.O. in envelope bearing your name and address and gum flap to Part 18. This will keep it safely in the middle of parcel, which tie up securely.

**NOTE.**—All orders placed before December 14th will be accepted by us at 14/6, special discount of 1/-. If your last part has not yet reached you, send the others, and qualify for the discount. You can send last part later.

*We are also binding Harmsworth's Encyclopædia. Scribble a p.c. for particulars*

# GOOD LOOKS

A good clear complexion has much to do with success in life, especially for women—and for men too. It appeals and fascinates more than features. You can always have "good looks" if you take Carter's Little Liver Pills, for the real source of a healthy and spotless face is an active Liver. They cure Biliousness, Constipation, Sallow Skin, Pimples and Blackheads. In fact they make you better looking. Safe for children.

**Small Pill—Small Dose—Small Price.**

**GENUINE** must bear signature

Brent Good


*ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS.*

**COMPANY MEETING.**

## UNITED DAIRIES.

Mr. Reginald Butler presided on Dec. 1st at the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the United Dairies, Ltd., held at the Connaught Rooms, and, in moving the adoption of the Directors' Report and Accounts, said that the net profit for the year ended June 30th was £279,668, and adding the balance brought forward from the previous year of £84,923, made a total of £364,591. This was an increase on the amount available last year of £91,204. After payment of the final dividends on Preference shares and 7½ per cent. on Ordinary shares (making 12½ per cent. for the year) there would remain to be carried forward (subject to Excess Profits Duty and Corporation Tax) £102,509. During the year under review the Company had made an issue of 500,000 Shares for Cash at 2s. 6d. premium, the whole of which were promptly taken up. These have until now been specially marked on Exchange "New Shares," but would in future rank equally with the Old Issues. In respect to the same period the Company issued nearly 400,000 shares in payment for New Businesses on, practically the whole of which the Company would pay Dividends for three months longer than it had brought in revenue.

At June 30th the subsidiary companies had an accumulation of three months' profits, which he estimated at not less than £150,000. If the subsidiary companies ended their financial year at June 30th, instead of March 31st, that annual accumulation would be brought into United Dairies' annual accounts. Although that sum did not appear in the balance sheet, it was an important reserve. More than half the profits were from sources other than the distribution of milk, and so large was the quantity of milk handled that a margin of an eighth of a penny on each quart produced a profit of over £250,000 per annum. These facts proved that there was no profiteering by the Company.

Reviewing the history of the Company, it was formed five years ago to acquire the controlling interest in three London Wholesale Milk Businesses, with their provincial factories, creameries, and other connections. The Company had hardly settled down with these when they were approached, with a view to absorption, by the leading London retail businesses, upon which the nominal capital of the Company was increased from £1,000,000 to £4,000,000, and several of the businesses were acquired.

With regard to the proposed further increase to £5,000,000, it was not intended to make a cash issue at present.

While the scheme for the fusion of the dairying interests, which was simple, practicable, and honest, was not accepted, the conferences it necessitated with prominent agriculturists had increased the number of the Company's friends and made it no enemies. The Milk and Dairies Bill now before Parliament proposed great extensions of bureaucratic control which were likely to reduce the production and increase the price of milk, the final result being increased taxation.

The report was adopted, and a resolution passed increasing the capital of the company.

# National Diamond Factories

(BERNARD OPPENHEIMER), LIMITED.
(Incorporated in England under the Companies Acts, 1908 to 1917.)

**ISSUE OF**

## £1,000,000 8 per Cent. Six Year Convertible Secured Notes at Par

**The Notes will be repayable at 105 per cent. in denominations of £1, £5, £10, £25, £50, £100 and £500.**

**The whole of the issued Ordinary Share Capital of the Company was subscribed for at par in cash.**

**Holders of the Notes will have the right up to 1st January, 1924, to convert their holdings into Ordinary Shares of the Company at par.**

**Actual minimum yield, £8 16s. 8d. per cent.**

**Actual maximum yield, £9 5s. 0d. per cent.**

**The East Factory at Brighton.**

Other Factories at FORT WILLIAM, CAMBRIDGE and WREXHAM.

**The Notes will be fully secured, as the net assets of the Company exceed £1,300,000, to which will be added the proceeds of the issue.**

Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer, the Managing Director, estimates that, when 2,000 diamond workers are employed, for which number the factories are equipped, **the profits should amount to not less than £400,000 per annum.**

**Trustees for the Noteholders.—**
**BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.**

**Directors.**

**BERNARD OPPENHEIMER,** Chairman of Directors and Managing Director of the South African Diamond Corporation, Limited, Chairman and Managing Director, Halton House, Holborn, E.C.
**THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF CHICHESTER,** Director of Union Bank of Australia, Limited, Stanmer Park, Lewes.
**H. SCOTT DENNINGTON,** Director of Lewis and Marks (Diamond Branch), Limited, 60, Whitehall Court, London, S.W.
**SIR W. B. GENTLE,** Director of London General Omnibus Co., Ltd., 6, Chichester Terrace, Brighton.
**ISAAC LEWIS,** Chairman of Lewis and Marks, Limited, Vereeniging House, Vereeniging, South Africa*.
**C. H. OPPENHEIMER,** Barrister-at-Law, Sefton Park, Stoke Poges, Bucks.
**C. F. ROWSELL,** Director of the South African Diamond Corporation, Limited, Ridge Green House, South Nutfield.

*In the absence of Mr. ISAAC LEWIS in South Africa, Mr. HENRY D. LEWIS, a Member of the London Committee of National Bank of South Africa, Limited, 34, Bishopsgate, London, E.C., will act as alternate Director.

**Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from the following :—**

**Bankers.**

BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED, 20-23, Holborn, E.C.
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL & UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LTD., Holborn Circus, London, E.C.
NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED, Fort William.
NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD., London Wall Buildings, London, E.C., and South Africa.

**Brokers.**

BELISHA, SHAW AND CO., 63, Old Broad Street, E.C. (and Stock Exchange).
GREENER, DREYFUS AND CO., 451, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C. (and Stock Exchange).
FYSHE AND HORTON, 3, Temple Row West, Birmingham (and Stock Exchange).
DIMMOCK BROTHERS AND COWTAN, 21, Spring Gardens, Manchester (and Stock Exchange).

**Secretary and Registered Office :**

E. J. JENKINSON, Halton House, Holborn, London, E.C.

# TOMMY, JACK, AND BADGERS.

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheese-paring, shall go unchallenged or unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916.

**To the Boys in Ireland**:—You chaps are sending us many letters concerning leave withheld, heavy guards and pickets, etc. But remember that you are British soldiers actually at war, and "bite on the bullet" as your forefathers did. As for your complaints regarding food and treatment, we shall send these to General Macready—who, as we know, will stand by you.

**The Gunners' Grievance**:—The warrant officers of the 1st Depot Battalion of the Machine Gun Corps, at Shorncliffe, appear to rank for ordinary duties with lance corporals. It is not the custom in the service to ask such men to command fatigues and go on "gate" duty. The officer in charge should think more of the dignity of his warrant men.

**He May be "Crimed"**:—The infantryman represented on the War Memorial recently erected outside the Royal Exchange, stands in danger of "orderly room"—not through his own fault. The sculptor has made him rest with his hands on the muzzle of his rifle, and many a Tommy knows what that offence entails when he is brought before the "Old Man."

**Keeping the Shirkers**:—There are already 4,000 ex-Service men out of employment, and the Dockyard and R.A.O.C. Depot authorities are adding to the number by dismissing ex-soldiers and sailors and retaining the civilian alleged "indispensables."

**The Air Force, Too**:—At the Royal Air Force Station at Howden a similar state of things exists, the order of the boot being presented to Tommy and Jack, while civilians who never served under arms are kept on.

**Help the Good Work**:—When doing your Christmas shopping in the West End, do not forget to visit the Ex-Service Stores at No. 8, Regent Street. By purchasing there you will be helping a band of ex-Service men who are struggling to obtain the living that they so well deserve.

**Help Offered**:—If any R.E. who served with the I.W.T. Corps in Mesopotamia has fallen on evil times and is in financial distress, he should write to Major Cunningham, Warren Cottage, Radlett, Herts, who is administering an "Inwater Mesopotamian Relief Fund."

**Attention, Please**:—We would ask the Superintendent of the Maghull Military Hospital for Epileptics if it is a fact that when a patient has a fit he is treated and looked after by his brother unfortunates. What are the nurses and orderlies for?

**A Small Concession**:—The pensioner clerks at the M. of P. Regional Headquarters, Birmingham, have petitioned—without success—for permission to leave the office for the purpose of drawing their pensions at the local post office on Wednesdays. Their request is reasonable, as the post office hours are from 9 a.m. till 12.30 p.m., during which time the men are at their desks.

**Jack's Money**:—Salvage is ready for distribution to the crew of H.M. tug *Hullman*, for salving the schooner *Volkerak* in May, 1919; and to H.M. tug *Granite City*, for the salvage of the trawler *Savitri* at the same time.

**Backsheesh**:—We call for the punishment of N.C.O.s who, on occasions such as the issuing of leave passes, place their caps on the table for the reception of coppers from the men "for services rendered." This mean and degrading practice is still in vogue, and in future any cases that come before us will be sent to the Commanding Officers concerned.

**Our Daily "Thank You"**:—From J. G. B——, Leatherhead.—"I write to thank you for the trouble you have taken on my behalf, and which has procured my arrears of pension due for twelve months. I feel certain that but for your assistance I should never have got it, as all my applications resulted in nothing. It is a good thing for us that you take an interest in us old soldiers and get us our dues. Please accept enclosed for your Fund."

## RACING NOTES.

*(All enquiries in respect of sporting matters will be dealt with in the correspondence columns of the* SPORTING LIFE.)

**Cross-Country Riders.**

Owners will have an excellent choice of riding talent this winter, and even when Frank Wootton loses his allowance, which will not be long now, he will still be sought after. Canty from Ireland will continue to do big things for Gore's stable, while the two less experienced lads, T. Leader and Dick, are shaping in very promising style.

**Irish Chasers.**

Never before have so many horses from the Emerald Isle crossed to England to challenge for our high stakes. Many of them will more than hold their own with our "home product." Magic Maid gave a taste of her quality at Newbury last week, and, handicapped as she has been, she will win again. Other useful chasers yet to carry silk here are Barty, Max and Dooly Ooley, while others, we hear, are coming over.

**WEEK'S SELECTIONS.**

WINDSOR—WEDNESDAY.
Mill Hurdle Race—GOLDEN FLEECE.
Windsor Steeplechase—*MAGIC MAID.
Oakside Hurdle—BALLINACARRIG.
Forest Steeplechase—WAVERTREE.

WINDSOR—THURSDAY.
College Steeplechase—EASTWARD HO.
December Hurdle—*WAVELINDA.
Bovenay Hurdle—SUNSTROKE.
Club Steeplechase—SUPER MAN.

SANDOWN PARK—FRIDAY.
Annual Hurdle—*PLANET.
Ewell Steeplechase—PRINCE CLIFTON.
Three-Year-Old Hurdle—DOUBLE UP.
Amateur Riders' 'Chase—THOMOND.

SANDOWN PARK—SATURDAY.
Oxshott Hurdle—LONGERLINE.
Sandown Steeplechase—THE BORE.
December Hurdle—*CAVALIER.
Milburn Hurdle—STEADY MARCH.

# "The Greatest of These—"

*(Registered under the War Charities Act as the* JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund.)*

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

**So Common**:—Her husband was a soldier and risked his life for us. She has a baby who is ill, and her "man" has been out of work for three months. We were not surprised to hear that the poor woman owed six weeks' rent, was in danger of eviction, and had sold most of her home.

**Trapped**:—An ex-soldier from the South Coast could not find employment, and came to London in the hope of getting a job. Many others have made the same mistake and, as in this case, we helped them back to their homes.

**The Little Strangers**:—It is accepted as a truism that the "Upper Ten" evade their natural responsibilities, and do not hanker after the laughter of youngsters in the household. It is otherwise with the poor. Olive branches seem to fall upon them like the leaves of Vallombrosa in autumn. They come to us, or write to us, and we send them financial assistance and baby clothing as far as lies in our power.

**The Last Service**:—An ex-soldier is unable to work. He has a small pension, which is not sufficient to keep a family of seven. A daughter had died uninsured, and we paid for the burial.

**Poor Tommy!**:—An ex-soldier has been laid up for a long time. He has a wife and five children, too young for work. The pawnbroker has most of his property.

**Late Application**:—Out of work for a long spell, an ex-soldier got a job and asked our help to procure tools, which we accorded.

## "IS IT NOTHING TO YOU?"

This sacred inquiry recurred to our mind when we read of the workless men's processions, the seizure of public buildings, and the hoisting of the red flag. But our Fund has nothing to do with politics or revolution, or the red flag. At the same time, we are in sympathy with the soldier and sailor who fought and have returned to starvation with "the missus and the kids," and can well understand the revulsion of patriotic feeling that their awful plight produces.

Meanwhile, we have appeals from thousands of families in the most acute distress, and their authenticated stories of suffering are very sad indeed. Day by day we read of stricken homes with diseased youngsters or parents, of how the household goods have gone by sale or to the pawnbroker, of the hungry family lying on the floor covered with sacks, and the dead who are in danger of the dreaded pauper burial. Read our cases and ponder. The lines of the Good Friday hymn we have already quoted struck us when we thought of our cases. And we thought, too, of their continuation: "Behold and see if there is any sorrow like unto my sorrow."

Since we started, we have done a grand work, and we ask all our readers to help us to continue it. Every sixpence helps, and we appeal to you to have a self-denial week and send us your savings. By doing so, you will at least have the glad feeling that you have fed the innocent hungry mites of our ex-Service men, who feel the pangs of hunger and wonder why it should be so.

Remember that he who gives at once gives twice. If it does not tire you, we reiterate that not one halfpenny sent in to us goes to any official, and that we very cheerfully bear the whole expense—which is not small—of enquiring into the cases and sending your donations to homes that are darkened by destitution and too often by black despair.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE FUND.

J. A. (Glasgow), £1; "Punch," 10s.; R. W. T., 1s.; F. F. (Southwick-on-Wear), 5s.; J. McC., £1; C. M. (Southampton), 6s.; E. M. P., (Lewisham), 5s.; H. S. (Ossett), 5s.; Pte. E. P. (Toronto), 1s. 9d.; Mrs. E. H. (Torquay), 10s. 6d.; E. M. P. (Deal), 2s. 6d.; H. M. (Wandsworth), £1; Mrs. L. S. (Hull), 2s. 6d.; E. J., £1; Mrs. B. S. (Burnley), 10d. and parcel; R. C., 2s. 6d.; W. E. H. (Bradford), £1; "Jock's Mother," parcel; "Nell," £2; "S.," 2s.; "Linzell," 5s.; "So'ton," 5s.; X.Y.Z., 10s.; G. H. (New Cross), 1s.; Anon., 1s.; J. M. (Willesden), 5s.; "A Novel Winner" (Stirling), 2s.; R. S. (Burnley), 5s.; M. S. M., 5s.; Anon., 2s.; C. A. H. (Torquay), parcel; S. S. (Newbury), 2s. 6d.; C. C. (Reigate), 2s. 6d.; L. N. (Stockport), 1s.; M. B. (Bedford), 1s. 6d.; "Every Little Helps," 1s.; F. H. M. (Philadelphia), £1 10s.; Anonymous (Penkridge), £1; A. R. C., 10s.; A. E. P. (Windsor), 5s.; J. S. (Douglas), 8s.; R. G. A. (Garforth), 10s.; H. M. (Penygraig), 2s. 6d.; "Brum," 1s. 3d.; W. H. (Bangor), 2s. 6d.; L. R. W. (Woklingham), 10s.; "Ex-Gunner R.G.A.," 2s. 6d.; B. J. F. (Portsmouth), 1s.; "Constant Reader," 7s. 6d.; "Found a Job," 2s. 6d.; J. I. I., £1; W. B. (Scarborough), 5s.; C. E. A. (Ipswich), 3s.; H. G. W. (Assington), 1s.; "Riley, Junr.," 5s.; "Oddington," 2s. 6d.; Mrs. K. E. M. (Tooting), 4s. and parcel; W. D. (Stonehouse), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. E. E. (Margate), 2s. 6d.; "A Barlestonian," 2s.; "Mother of Boy Officer Shot at Dawn," £2; "An Only Son's Grateful Mother," 3s. 6d.; Mrs. B. S. (Burnley Wood), 1s. and parcel; "Poor But Willing," 2s.; J. H. B. (Egypt), 1s.; Mr. and Mrs. W., 6s.; W. J. W. (Boscombe), 2s.; L. C. (Ilford), 2s.; Mrs. G. G. (Finchley), 2s.; F. C. (Barrow-in-Furness), 2s.; E. McM. (Carlisle), 3s.; N. W. (Nottingham), 2s.; "In Memory of a Missing One" (Cardiff), 2s.; R. M. C. D. (Stranraer), 10s.; "War Dog," 2s.; P. C. (Sunderland), 2s. 6d.; E. M. W. (Lincoln), 3s.; "In Memoriam," 5s.; "Widow's Mite," 6d.; "Mary" (Ripon), 2s. 6d.; A. S. (East Finchley), 5s.; "Every Little Helps," 1s.; C. L. S. (Brixton), 5s.; "Swear Box, M. Office, Saltcoats Station" (per J. M.), 8s.; Anon., 2s.; "S. Ealing Reader," 3s.; "In Loving Memory of Family Hero," 10s.; A. E. S. (Droitwich), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. L. D. (Southampton), 2s.; G. D. (East Grinstead), 5s.; Mrs. C. G. (Lowestoft), 15s.; Mrs. S. A. H. (Fortis Green), £5 5s.; "In Gratitude for Health Restored," 10s.; "In Loving Memory of Kittie and Ellie," 10s.; Mrs. L. A. M. (Tivertos), 6s. 1d.; Mrs. A. C. (Borobridge), 9s.; "A.C.S. Clerical Officer," £1; G. K. (Bournemouth), 4s. 6d.; R. T. (Leicester), 1s.; "H.," 1s.; J. A. (Hawick), 5s.; S. M. (Allensmore), 7s.; W. B., 1s.; Mrs. C. H. H., £1; "Welshman," 5s.; "A Reader at Buriton," 5s.; "Disabled" (Chatham), 3s.; "Sandbachian," 5s.; A. D. (Skegby), 1s.; M. L., 1s.; F. S. (Kingsbridge), 10s.; L. A. W. (New Zealand), 10s.; V. A. (Chorlton-cum-Hardy), 5s.; "The Quarterblokes Box," £1 7s. 6d.; R. H. (Dingwall), £1 1s.; Anon. (Mitcham), 10s.; J. M. T. and E. L. T., £1; J. S. (Ramsgate), 3s.; Mrs. J. B. (York), 1s. 2d.; X. R. A., 2s. 6d.; Anon., 2s.; W. G. L. (Patricroft), 1s.; E. O. D. (Aldershot), 5s.; "Regular Reader" (Bristol), 6d.; S. A. H., 5s.; "In Loving Memory of Alan," £1; H. G. (Birmingham), 4d.; Mrs. H. B. P., 1s. 6d.; S. L., 1s. 6d.; R. M. (Bicknansworth), 6d.; P. K. O'B., 3s. 6d.

*ADVERTISERS ANNOUNCEMENTS.*

COMPANY MEETING.

# SOUTH AFRICAN DIAMOND CORPORATION, LTD.

## Big Increase in Profit—Chairman's Review of Diamond Market.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of the South African Diamond Corporation, Ltd., was held on November 30 at the works of the National Diamond Factories (Bernard Oppenheimer), Ltd., Lewes Road, Brighton, Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer, chairman of the company, presiding.

Captain C. M. Oppenheimer read the speech of the chairman in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, in the course of which he said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—It gives your directors great pleasure in again being able to place statements before you which show another big advance on the previous year's results. You will see that the profit earned for the year is £131,306 10s. 1d. against a profit of £44,472 3s. 4d. for the year 1919. The issued capital of your company up to December 31, 1919, was £100,000, and a further issue of 200,000 shares took place on January 1 this year. Thus, the profit of £131,000 odd for the twelve months was made up to December 31, 1919, on a subscribed capital of £100,000, and, for the remaining six months of the financial year, on the increased capital of £300,000. I am sure you will consider this result satisfactory.

The issue of the 200,000 shares itself on January 1 of this year was a great success, and as this issue was only made to existing shareholders, I think your directors can take this as a vote of confidence in their management. As you are aware, these 200,000 shares were issued to you at a premium of £1 per share. The premium of £200,000 has been placed to reserve account, thus strengthening your company's position very considerably.

The big increase over last year in shares in other companies from £257,181 3s. 5d. to £773,652 8s. 6d. is almost entirely due to the investment of £400,000 in £1 shares in the National Diamond Cutting Factories. You have left an undivided profit of £55,088 9s. 2d., subject to excess profits duty, and it is this point which is receiving the very serious consideration of your board. The business of the Corporation, although a certain slackness in all trades has set in, continues to be of a profitable nature, and it is with the utmost satisfaction that I am able to state that we are in a position to keep up our dividends of 50 per cent. per annum, if we are not mulcted in heavy excess and other duties. (Applause).

### THE DIAMOND MARKET.

The diamond market, although it is at least 30 per cent. higher than when I addressed you last, is at the moment very slack, but prices are being held, not artificially, but for the simple reason that the returns of rough diamonds are not overtaxing the market. The present slackness is attributable in the first place to the various labour troubles and the general unrest that has taken place all over the world, but with over forty years' experience of the trade behind me, I am emboldened to say that there is nothing wrong with the diamond market at all, and that it will recover its old buoyancy in the near future. (Hear, hear). Very few people understand that there is really at all times a scarcity of diamonds.

The purchasing public here, in America, and everywhere else, should have their attention drawn to the great advantages of precious stones, and especially of the diamond, as an investment. The diamond scintillates, it fascinates, it beautifies, and adorns, and at the same time it is really an absolutely sound investment, an investment without bulk and easily negotiable.

### EXCESS PROFITS DUTY.

The action of the Government, as far as the excess profits duty is concerned, is, of course, one of vital importance to us, and your Corporation is particularly affected. Your Company was floated in 1913. Our profits for the first year on the then capital of £100,000 were £10,000, consequently the standard allowed us is very small. I do not propose to weary you with a long dilation on the subject, but I will add my own complaint, in common with numberless others who control large industries founded during recent years, and who are mulcted in very heavy taxes whilst old-established firms are allowed to get off scot-free. (Hear, hear). I believe I am quite right in stating that the excess profits duty has been the greatest cause of the present high cost of living—(Hear, hear)—which in turn has brought about the serious labour disturbances from which the country has suffered so severely during the past year. It is to be hoped that the Government will listen to every business man's just complaint on this point, and repeal this most unjust and iniquitous tax. (Hear hear).

We are not able to tell you what the taxation we have to pay is likely to be. Your board, therefore, are somewhat in the dark as to what would be the fairest way of dealing with declarations of dividends. I have proposed to my co-directors, and they have agreed, that we declare a dividend to-day at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum for the six months ending December 31, and if you confirm this at to-day's meeting, dividend warrants will be posted to you on December 31 next. I hope that at June 30, 1921, the position of affairs generally, as far as taxation is concerned, will have improved, so that we are enabled to pay you the usual dividend of 50 per cent. per annum, and the remaining 25 per cent. which we are now proposing to keep in reserve for eventualities. (Applause).

I now want to tell you a few words about the Diamond Cutting Works in which you hold an interest of 30 per cent. The directors' report states, and states, to my mind, quite correctly, that this investment will be a very paying one for you in the near future. I am glad so many shareholders have found it convenient to come here to-day, and to look over the works. I hope you have enjoyed your visit, and that you are able to agree with me that we have founded a wonderful industry which will outlive us all. (Applause.) I, personally, can tell you that I am more than pleased with the progress we have made and I can also tell you that our diamonds find a ready sale all over the world. I want to repeat here what I have told you the last two years—ever since we have started this diamond cutting—that we are not competing or intending to compete in a harmful way against our Continental competitors, and that, moreover, we have made arrangements with the Continental Union of Diamond Cutters that we all come into line.

### PENDING NEW ISSUE.

I want to point out to you that this diamond cutting scheme is capable of great extension, and so as to be able to carry out this extension we are going to the public for a further £1,000,000 in 8 per cent. six-year convertible secured notes at par, which notes will be exchangeable at any time before January 1, 1924, into shares at par, or they will be paid off after January 1, 1924, in three yearly instalments as follows:—In 1924, £400,000; in 1925, £300,000; and in 1926, £300,000. We require this money to enable us to give work to the 2,000 men we contemplate taking on, 700 of whom are now in our employ.

With regard to our workmen, you have all had an opportunity of watching them at work, and you have seen the conditions under which they are employed. As far as the wages are concerned, I recognise one thing, and that is that every man has the same right as I have, or as you have, to earn as much money legitimately as his capacity of work entitles him to—(Hear, hear)—and in the furtherance of our work this will be our guiding principle. We do not care a bit what a man earns so long as he shows us a profit, and we hope in a few years' time to spend a minimum of between £600,000 and £1,000,000 in wages.

Mr. C. F. Rowsell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.


*The Revolution in Tailoring Prices.*

**£4 2 6 OVERCOAT to Measure for £2 6 6**

**4 GUINEA SUIT To Measure for £2 10 0**

Cut and made to your individual requirements — UNPRECEDENTED and UNPARALLELED VALUE. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR MONEY REFUNDED. More than that even. So convinced are we of our ability to give you such value as you have never hitherto enjoyed that we refund not only the Purchase Price, but 2s. 6d. over and above the price we charge if you are not satisfied with the garments we shall make specially for you. This offer by BARRY & CO. (Tailors with seventeen years' practical experience) is made exclusively to the genuine Clothes-Purchaser, and is not extended to anyone engaged directly or indirectly in the Tailoring Business.

**Superlative Tailoring at Incomparable Prices.**

The last word to the Profession. The best material, trimmings and workmanship throughout. Positively the best tailoring value in the world to-day.

**Send for Free Patterns.**

You will be delighted with the choice collection of cloths which we will send by return. You can order your suit or overcoat through the post.

Delivery in Seven Days.

**Our Self-Measurement Chart**

eliminates all risk of faulty measures. That is why we give you our guarantee to refund you 2s. 6d. more than you pay if you are not thoroughly satisfied.

CALL OR WRITE

**S. A. BARRY & CO.,**

Exclusive Measure Tailors,

16, CITY RD., LONDON, E.C.1



# DON'T SUFFER WITH NEURALGIA

## Use Soothing Miller's Musterole

When those sharp pains go shooting through your head, when your skull seems as if it would split, just rub a little Miller's Musterole on your temples and neck. It draws out the inflammation, soothes away the pain, usually giving quick relief. Used only externally, and in no way can it affect stomach and heart, as some medicines do.

Miller's Musterole is a clean, white ointment, made with oil of mustard. Better than a mustard plaster and does not blister.

Many doctors and nurses frankly recommend Miller's Musterole for sore throat, bronchitis, croup, stiff neck asthma, neuralgia, congestion, pleurisy, rheumatism, lumbago, pains and aches of the back or joints, sprains, sore muscles, bruises, chilblains, frosted feet, colds of the chest (it often prevents pneumonia). It is always dependable.

2s. 6d. a jar. All chemists,

*THOS. CHRISTY & CO.,*

4-12, *Old Swan Lane, London, E.C.4.*

MILLER'S

**THE illustration is from a photograph of Mr. Beeton, a MAXALDING pupil, showing how Constipation is cured by control of the abdominal muscles and internal organs.**

By MAXALDING you can be absolutely cured of Constipation, *permanently* cured, in fact you can *cure yourself*—by MAXALDING—within a period of three days to one month. This is guaranteed. And you can rid yourself of Indigestion, Mal-assimilation, Rheumatism, Lack of Will-Power, Loss of Self-Confidence, Nervous Debility, Neurasthenia and other Functional Weaknesses in a period of one to three months. Most men and women of any education and experience whatever, know of a certainty that medicines or drugs cannot bring Health; sometimes they bring relief, for a time, making matters worse in the end. They know this, yet they go on dosing themselves. Why? Because it is part of the complaint to drift; it *seems* so much easier to buy drugs. In the past the only excuse for this was the lack of an alternative.

*In MAXALDING you have the alternative*

# MAXALDING

## means: more LIFE and—more JOY in Life

*MENS AGITAT MOLEM (Mind moves the Mass).*

In MAXALDING you CONTROL YOURSELF. It is the triumph of "Mind over matter," a phrase often used and which now has a real meaning in MAXALDING.

MAXALDING is not difficult to learn, and the movements are easy and very interesting to practise; like most great ideas it is simple and easy—when you know the way.

By MAXALDING the circulation is perfected, the alimentary canal cleansed, the muscles made supple, the mind made bright, and the body made beautiful.

When a really satisfactory condition of health has been secured you begin to accumulate a store of nervous force, and you can use this nervous force in ways most pleasurable and profitable to yourself.

*Mr. M. SALDO, who evolved MAXALDING, has created 16 world's records for strength and endurance.*

Although not a Physician, Doctors send him patients whose only hope of a cure is by MAXALDING. He has been practising privately for ten years, and amongst his pupils and patients are Dr. Cathcart, of Harley Street, the most famous authority on breathing in the world—who sends patients to Mr. Saldo; Mr. Hughes, the Prime Minister of Australia; the Grand Duke Michael, The Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan, etc., etc.

Mr. Saldo is as far ahead of ordinary Physical Culturists as the modern surgeon is of the old "village sawbones."

He invites you to write to him explaining fully your requirements, whether they be the eradication of functional disorder, the development of a perfect body, the increase of nervous energy, or the acquisition of great strength. Mr. Saldo will advise you personally and will enclose a copy of "MAXALDING."

*Address your letter to:*

**MAXALDING,**

**62, New Stone Buildings,**

**Chancery Lane, London, W.C. 2.**


The NATIONAL NEWS takes national views—every Sunday.

*All correspondence relating to financial matters should be addressed to the City Editor.*

# JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

## ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

By OUR CITY EDITOR.

*Each inquiry must bear name and address and be accompanied by a Postal Order for One Shilling.*

**Continued Liquidation.**

There are indications that the worst of the liquidations in the Stock Markets is over for the present, but it has been a very trying time both for dealers and investors. A great deal of the selling came from the Continent and some from America, but many holders here also have had to let go. The fall in the wholesale price of many commodities at the same time as the banks are rigidly curtailing credit facilities has compelled merchants to realise securities in order to protect other stocks.

**Treasury Bonds.**

Last week the Government had to pay out £50,000,000 of interest on War Loans, and had also to redeem a block of Exchequer Bonds which fell due on Dec. 1st. The nominal amount of the latter was about 25 millions, but it must have been considerably reduced by payments of taxes and by conversion. In any case the amount distributed cannot have been less than 60 to 70 millions, and an appeal was made for the re-investment of as much as possible in the new series of Treasury bonds. Interest on the latter is at present 7 per cent. and it cannot fall below 5 per cent. while the bonds are redeemable at par in five to fifteen years. They are an excellent investment.

**A Bovril Issue.**

The great firm of Bovril, Ltd., is offering for sale 100,000 8 per cent. Preferred Ordinary shares in Estate Control, Ltd., an associated undertaking, which has holdings in the Bovril Estates Companies and Virol, Ltd., and which pays regular dividends on its Preference and large dividends on its Ordinary shares. The issue should be well subscribed.

**A Slippery Slope.**

Oil shares have been sharply on the downgrade recently, and some heavy falls have been registered—especially among the leading shares. There is nothing wrong with the industry and the future of oil seems perfectly assured, but the market has suffered both from its popularity and its international character. It has always been possible to deal freely in the principal shares, which are consequently a favourite means of raising funds in times of stress like the present. Possibly, too, there may have been some bear selling, but I do not attach much importance to that. Prices are now at a tempting level, and bargain hunting may be expected to redress the balance before long.

**The British-American Safety Razor Company.**

To establish goodwill in a popular article, of course there is nothing like advertising. In the year 1913, $201,575 was spent by the British-American Safety Razor Company in this direction, and this amount has steadily risen until in 1919 $619,347 was expended, whilst it is estimated that $900,000 will be laid out in 1920. There has consequently been created a valuable goodwill for the Company in the sale of "Ever Ready," "Gem" and "Star" safety razors, which is shown by the fact that the sales have increased from 706,000 in 1913 to 1,800,000 in 1919. An offer of 200,000 "A" shares of £1 each, at par, is now being made. As a five-shilling safety razor is within the reach of practically everyone's purse, the "human race" would appear to be its market. Then, of course, the more razors in use, the more blades required—so the prosperity of the business seems to be assured.

**In Darkest Africa.**

A very poor start has been made by the Abyssinian Corporation, which was formed at the end of 1918. The first report, to June 30th, discloses the unpleasant fact that there was a trading loss of £88,000, including differences on exchange, and £62,000 has had to be written off stocks as a precautionary measure. In view of disastrous result, shareholders are not likely to derive any solid comfort from the announcement that the Heir-Apparent to the throne of Abyssinia has graciously consented to join the board of directors. This is certainly a model form of usefulness for a ruling prince.

**National Diamond Factories.**

My readers are aware of the splendid institutions founded by Mr. Bernard Oppenheimer, for the training and employment of disabled ex-Service men in diamond-cutting and polishing—an industry hitherto confined almost exclusively to the Continent. The principal works, at Brighton, founded three years ago, although working on a limited scale, produced a net profit of over £50,000 during the first two years' operations. Now nearly 800 workers are employed, whilst accommodation is provided for double the number. For the purpose of extension of the business the Company owning the works is making an issue of one million 8 per cent. six-year notes at par, redeemable at a premium of 5 per cent. The fact that the undertaking is so closely associated with the great firm of Lewis and Marks ensures an ample supply of rough diamonds, whilst Mr. Oppenheimer estimates that when in full swing the profits should amount to not less than £400,000 per annum. I regard the issue as a sound short-term investment.

Get me for your office staff - I am an efficient help
3d each
Velvet Pencils
OF ALL STATIONERS
Velvet, 173 5 Lower Clapton Road, E 5

The value which YOU seek is to be obtained HERE.

MILL PRICES Direct buying from our mills cuts out middlemen's profits, and our position in the woollen industry enables you to enjoy the advantage of the low prices of wool now obtaining.

GUARANTEED ALL-WOOL 50/- Pair

WHITE BLANKETS FULL SIZE 72 x 90 ins.

Beautifully soft and woolly, these guaranteed All Wool Blankets are an irresistible comfort providing that warmth and snugness which speedily brings healthy refreshing sleep on the coldest nights. They are the BEST quality at the lowest possible price. Order to-day, and if you are not satisfied we will immediately refund your money.

We also manufacture a fine range of Angola Wool Shirts 12/6 each. Extra quality Angola Flannel 2/10 per yard, and All-Wool Flannel 3/6 per yard

Write to-day for FREE PATTERNS No. III

*All goods sent carriage paid, and money returned if dissatisfied.*

G. L. BRADBURY Brigg Mill, Meltham, Near Huddersfield

BOVRIL LIMITED

OFFER FOR SALE

100,000 8% PREFERRED ORDINARY

Shares of £1 each in Estates Control Limited.

*Particulars can be obtained from Bovril Limited, 152-166, Old Street, London, E.C., or from any Branch of Bankers.*

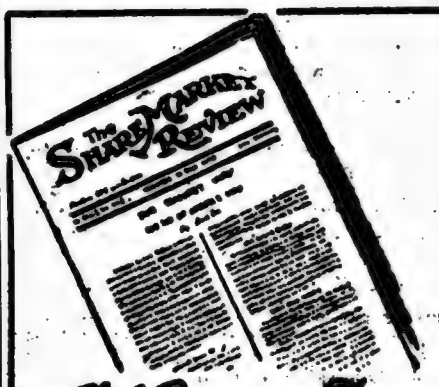
LLOYDS BANK LIMITED, 222, Strand, London, W.C.2. Head Office and Branches; or LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER & PARR'S BANK, LIMITED, Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2, Head Office and Branches.

CLARNICO

Don't forget to put a box of CLARNICO CARAMELS in the Xmas stockings, or the Kiddies will blame Santa Claus!

Cream, Lily & Chocolate-Lily

CLARNICO

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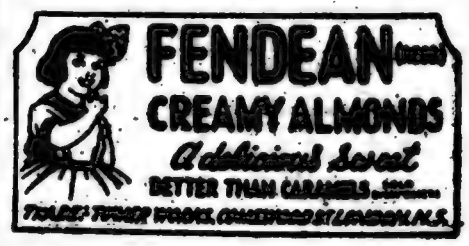

GEM

# "EVER-READY"

5/- 5/-

STAR

A prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies from which the following are extracts.
Application will be made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for special permission to deal in the Shares after Allotment.

**The Subscription List is now open and will close on or before Saturday, the 11th December, 1920.**

# British-American Safety Razor Company, Ltd.

*(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908 to 1917.)*

## CAPITAL - - IN - - £400,000,

**225,000 "A" Shares of £1 each, and 175,000 "B" of £1 each.**

## ISSUE OF 225,000 "A" SHARES OF £1 EACH,

**Of which the Vendors have agreed to subscribe for 25,000 Shares at par on the terms of the full Prospectus.**

THERE ARE NOW OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION

## 200,000 "A" Shares of £1 each at par,

**of which two of the Directors and their friends have underwritten or sub-underwritten 100,000 Shares, as below mentioned.**
**Payable 5s. per Share on Application; 5s. per Share on Allotment; and 10/- per Share on 15th January, 1921.**

### DIRECTORS.

GEORGE L. STORM, 284, East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut, U.S.A. (*Chairman, American Safety Razor Corporation*), Chairman.
T. BLUNDELL BROWN, Oakwood, Chigwell, Essex (*Director, The British Empire Trust Company, Limited, The British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, and Jeyes Sanitary Compounds Company, Limited*), (Vice-Chairman).
ERIC H. ROSE, 45, Green Street, Grosvenor Square, W. (*Partner in Rose, Van Cutsem & Co.*)
CAPT. WILLIAM J. TODD, 90, Wigmore Street, London, W. (*Director, Findlater, Mackie, Todd & Co., Limited*), (Director of Sales).
JOSEPH KAUFMAN, 38, West Fifty Ninth Street, New York City, U.S.A. (*President, American Safety Razor Corporation*).
JULIUS B. DE MESQUITA, 600, West 113th Street, New York City, U.S.A. (*Treasurer, American Safety Razor Corporation*).
NELSON W. GREENHUT, 325, West End Avenue, New York City, U.S.A. (*Vice-President and Director, American Safety Razor Export Corporation*), (Managing Director).

**Bankers.**—BARCLAY'S BANK, LIMITED, 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3., Head Office and Branches. GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK—London Office, 33, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.
**Solicitors.**—Messrs. ASHURST, MORRIS, CRISP & CO., 17, Throgmorton Avenue, E.C.2.
**Brokers.**—Messrs. BELISHA, SHAW & CO., 63, Old Broad Street, E.C.2.
**Auditors.**—Messrs. DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & CO., 5, London Wall Buildings, E.C.2.
**Registrars.**—THE BRITISH EMPIRE TRUST COMPANY LTD., 34, Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.4.
**Secretary (pro. tem.) and Registered Office.**—ALEXANDER A. BLAES, 14, Copthall Avenue, E.C.2.

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The Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring from the American Safety Razor Export Corporation of New York, U.S.A. (hereinafter called "the Export Corporation"), the sole and exclusive rights for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the whole of Continental Europe, Africa, Mesopotamia, India and Australasia, of manufacturing and dealing in the well-known Safety Razors known as the "Ever Ready," the "Gem" and the "Star" and the "Safetee" shaving soaps, shaving powders, brushes, and other toilet requisites connected therewith.

The following are extracts from a letter from the Chairman of the American Corporation, giving particulars relating to the American Corporation and its products:—

The "Star," the world's first safety razor, was produced in 1879, the "Gem," the second successful model, made its appearance in 1896, and the "Ever Ready," the first popular-priced thin blade safety razor was introduced in 1903.

The remarkable growth in the use of the five-shilling Safety Razor is parallel with the commercial progress made by all three Companies. The output of safety razors and safety razor blades of these Companies has steadily increased from year to year, and the demand is still increasing. The comparative statement of the sales of blades and razors for the past seven years is approximately as follows:—

| | Blades. | Razors. | | Blades. | Razors. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1913 ... | 23,632,287 ... | 704,370 | 1917 ... | 57,894,233 ... | 1,561,319 |
| 1914 ... | 33,154,435 ... | 633,633 | *1918 ... | 95,636,226 ... | 3,103,893 |
| 1915 ... | 35,293,141 ... | 939,253 | 1919 ... | 114,730,744 ... | 1,831,715 |
| 1916 ... | 51,997,207 ... | 1,239,263 | | | |

*(These figures include special war contracts with the U.S. Government.)

As the following table will show, large sums have been expended in the past in advertising the above commodities, thereby creating a valuable goodwill in the name of "Ever-Ready," "Gem," and "Star":—

| Year. | Amount. | Year. | Amount. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1913 ... ... ... | Dols. 231,575 | 1917 ... ... ... | Dols. 545,702 |
| 1914 ... ... ... | 254,289 | 1918 ... ... ... | 641,930 |
| 1915 ... ... ... | 347,584 | 1919 ... ... ... | 619,247 |
| 1916 ... ... ... | 426,414 | 1920 (estimated) ... | 900,000 |

The above does not include any expenses in connection with dealers advertising, window displays, etc.

The Accounts of the American Corporation and its domestic subsidiaries for the period from its incorporation to the 30th June, 1920 (approximately 9½ months), which have been audited and reported upon by Messrs. Marwick, Mitchel & Co., show that the profits of this period before deducting American Taxes were at the rate of over 1,420,000 dollars per annum. These profits were arrived at after making provision for very substantial amounts expended in advertising. For the twelve months I estimate the profits at 1,700,000 dollars.

The distribution of these safety razors, shaving brushes, and other products, has been highly organised and intensely developed throughout America and Canada, and the products also have been recently introduced into the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Denmark, Finland, Austria, Jugo-Slovakia, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Germany, Greece, Africa, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Czecho-Slovakia, Roumania, Serbia, Mesopotamia, Turkey, India, Australasia.

General experience spread over a number of years has proved that "Star," "Gem," and "Ever-Ready" Razors at 5s. each cannot be surpassed by any on the market. The best of everything enters into their manufacture, and despite rising costs of every description economic changes have been successfully dealt with, and the price of the popular-priced razor has been profitably maintained.

The trade marks used in connection with the safety razors, etc., have been established throughout the principal countries of the world at very great expense in general advertising outdoor signs, and dealer's window displays.

The Shaving Brush, Soap, and other Departments are prosperous and rapidly growing and the growth of the self-shaving habit at the same time creates the demand for these accessories. The manufacturing conditions of the various plants are safeguarded by the highly-developed automatic mechanical processes employed in blade making. Dependence on skilled labour has been reduced to a minimum by reason of the introduction of labour-saving machinery. Considering the great volume of production, the number of workmen employed is very small. The use of safety razors has recently become a rapidly growing world habit. Practically all safety razors have heretofore been manufactured in the United States, where their use is almost universal.

**The five-shilling safety razor is the Ford of the safety razor business, with the added advantage of a world-wide demand—a necessity instead of a luxury—a money saver instead of a money spender. The human race is its market.**

**A five-shilling safety razor owing to the low cost to the user is practically within the reach of everybody. The more razors there are in use, the more blades are required, and the more blades that are used the greater the prosperity of the business.**

Owing to embargoes placed on imports of such goods into other countries during the War, and the present state of exchange throughout the world, it has been impossible to develop the business in England and the Continent, and it is felt that the time has come, if the world demand is to be satisfied, for the distribution of these articles to be undertaken in England and manufactured there. To carry out this object your Company has been formed and I am confident that the arrangement made with your Company will enable a very large volume of business to be done.

Until your Company has attained a sufficiently large turnover to warrant the erection of factories in England my Corporation will supply you with all its requirements at practically cost price to my Corporation. Your Company will thus be in a position to commence trading immediately.

**My Corporation will at all times place at your disposal the full benefit of our experience and knowledge in connection with the Factory and selling organisation and the development of all new ideas and methods of business, manufacture, or otherwise, and will loyally assist and co-operate with you in all matters connected with your business.**

The American Safety Razor Export Corporation, of which I am also the Chairman, is showing its confidence in the future of your Company by accepting fully-paid "B" Shares for the Patents, Trade Marks and Goodwill to be acquired by your Company and a sum in cash representing the value of the stock of Razors, &c., to be transferred to you, out of which sum the Export Corporation is reinvesting the sum of £25,000 in payment for 25,000 "A" Shares of your Company for which it is subscribing.

I estimate the volume of business for the first year should be not less than 675,000 Razors and 20,000,000 Blades, which should result in a very handsome profit being made by your Company.

As soon as it is deemed advisable, the Company will establish and equip in this country a factory, similar to those existing in America, for the manufacture of safety razors, blades and other articles for sale in this country and in foreign markets, where British labour will be largely employed.

**The consideration payable by the Company to the Export Corporation under the Contract (a), mentioned below, for the Goodwill, Trade Marks and Patents, has been fixed at £165,000 (of which £35,000 is payable for goodwill), to be satisfied by the allotment to the Export Corporation or its nominees of 165,000 "B" Shares of the Company credited as fully paid.** Under the same Contract the Company will acquire from the Export Corporation all stocks of safety razors, blades, shaving brushes, powders, toilet requisites and other stock in trade in this Country and France, and certain book debts in this country and on the Continent guaranteed by the Export Corporation, and the leasehold premises at 8, Rue la Fayette, Paris, at a valuation, which is estimated (exclusive of the said book debts) to amount to £31,000, the amount of such valuation being payable in cash.

As the vendors have subscribed for 25,000 Shares, and in addition 100,000 Shares of the present issue have been underwritten the Directors will proceed to allotment forthwith.

The following Directors are interested in the promotion of or in the property to be acquired by the Company.

Messrs. George L. Storm, Joseph Kaufman, Julius B. de Mesquita and Nelson Greenhut, are holders of 116,000, 210,000, 67,000 and 42,000 Shares respectively of the American Corporation. Mr. Eric H. Rose is a partner in the firm of Rose Van Cutsem & Co. Mr. George L. Storm has sub-underwritten 25,000 "A" Shares at a commission of 10 per cent., to be satisfied by the allotment of 2,500 "B" Shares of the Company credited as fully paid.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and of the contracts can be inspected at the offices of the Solicitors to the Company on any day between 11 and 4 o'clock, whilst the list remains open.

A brokerage of 3d. per share will be paid by the Company on all shares allotted on applications by the public bearing the stamp of a Broker or recognised Agent.

**Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from the Bankers, Solicitors and Brokers to the Company, or at the Company's registered office.**

# "John Bull's" Letter Bag.

*[The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.]*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only should be forwarded in the first instance. For a reply by post on personal subjects, a twopenny stamped envelope must be enclosed.*

LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor, or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries Full name and address should be given.*

REV. F. E. R. H. (Weston-super-Mare).—The attitude of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland towards Sinn Fein is a puzzle to those who see in it a spiritual significance only.

"HIGHLANDS" (Scotland).—We don't begrudge the Duke of Athol his toy army, but would merely remark that English noblemen manage without pantomime bodyguards.

"CYCLOPS" (Cape Town).—"We are proud to be loyal to England out here, but is England loyal to us?" If you mean the English people, yes; if you mean the British Government, the answer is a lemon.

LENA W. (Wolverhampton).—Yes, from one point of view the ocean, wherein our Unknown Sailors rest is an even more majestic sepulchre than Westminster Abbey. Still——

A. G. (Eastbourne).—"Wishing you every success and a long life." Touching wood, we echo your pious wish.

"MOTHER" (Kensington).—"Was it not a little trick of Lloyd George to go to Lucerne so that he could shake hands with Tino?" No news.

C. W. L. (Lambeth).—We don't think many people would pay 1s. each to see the faded wreaths from the Cenotaph in a public park.

N. S. (St. Albans).—"Every day our Government is breaking promises like piecrust." And we've got to swallow what they break.

T. B. S. (late 2nd Norfolks).—By this time you know General Townshend has got in. We don't doubt he'll find a few others out.

E. P. (Gravesend).—"It does seem to my mind as though everything that matters were left to JOHN BULL!" No matter, never mind.

R. P. (London) objects to the H. of C. Committee's recommendation that Mr. Lloyd George should have £10,000 a year and a pension. We are bound to confess we should be willi g to take on the job for less—and earn the money.

"A SOLDIER'S MOTHER" (Amesbury).—Yes, it is a pitiful contrast; the Unknown Warrior buried with pomp in Westminster Abbey, and George Robson, D.C.M., an inmate of Hull Workhouse.

H. B. (Leeds).—"I often gaze on your well-fed face in the paper." Dear friend, the pictorial representation is but a pale shadow of the living lineaments.

F. M. (Leeds). — Since you ask us, we think the constable of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, was justified in stopping the two soldiers in hospital blue from Netley, on their way to the Cenotaph, with only 2s. in their possession. He acted in the men's best interests.

R. G. (Dublin).—"Could you see your way to ask a question in the House?" Our vision as a rule proves equal to the task.

"ANONYMOUS" (Burton-on-Trent).—"... Your noble words Like seraph fingers sweep our finest chords." Our seraph fingers tingle with pride. Life is thumbs up now.

"A READER" (Southend-on-Sea).—"Put Mrs. Clare Sheridan in the Barber's Chair." We would prefer her not to call, as she might cause our tame Barber to go on the "bust."

C. F. B. (Chatham).—However exalted his position, it did not absolve him from the obligation to remove his pipe and doff his hat on the occasion of the memorial service at your Cenotaph. We share your disgust.

D. W. L. (Dundee).—"Honesty may be best policy, but, thank God, we can live without it." It would be rather rough on the remaining 9,999 in every 10,000 were it otherwise.

A. H. L. (Grimsby).—"Respecting the meaning of 'Margot,' it is the United States definition of a variety of perch. This will account for some of the stories being rather fishy." Come off that perch.

"A SYMPATHISER" (Hove).—"I would be glad if you would work up the enclosed subject in JOHN BULL." Do your own jobs. Bet you are not half as busy as we are.

R. W. (Pimlico) knows one man who has "done the double" on the dole for 7 months. Shouldn't be surprised to hear that somebody somewhere has done it for 27 months.

"LESLIE" (Dartmouth).—Can't see much hardship in the rule that the waitress must deliver the bill to the customer when she serves the food.

"WORKMAN" (Govan).—"I have been keeping an eye on a certain couple which is employed by a club belonging to a big firm." Fie! Look the other way.

C. C. (Kilburn).—"I have noticed that your tame 'Barber' has not a very good idea of politicians." On the contrary, it is because his idea of them is so good that his opinion of them, on the whole, is so bad.

MISS T. (Poplar).—"Surely, our only lady Member of Parliament could find plenty of other things to interest herself in without interfering with the working-man's glass of beer." But in that case she would lose the joy of poking her nose into other people's business.

E. B. (Kentish Town).—We approve your standpoint in regard to "female clerks who are spinsters," and urge you not to depart from it to the extent of an eyelid's flicker.

"WONDERER" (Farnham). — "Where can a maid call her own private place in service?" She can say what she likes, but should employ a wise discretion.

I. M. (Londonderry).—No mistake, some of you Ulster chaps are hot stuff. Were you weaned on mustard?

"SPANK" (Southampton).—"My pal has begun to use big words." As long as they are nice ones you need not fret.

E. C. (Edgbaston).—"Was Sir Wm. Crookes fooled into believing he saw a ghost in solid form in his own house, and actually touched it?" Undoubtedly. To start with, anything in solid form could be neither ghost nor spirit.

R. O. (W. Kensington).—Your letter, like Charlie Chaplin's pedal extremities, covers a lot of ground, but we can just spare enough space to say that we agree with your condemnation of the Labour Exchanges.

"A TRADER" (Tottenham).—"2s. 4d. is not so far out for a fair blend" of coffee. Considering there is a 1s. 2d. duty per lb. on the raw weight, perhaps you are right.

E. C. (Whitstable).—Your strong advocacy of a tax on bicycles excites our suspicion that you do not ride one.

MISS E. (Hendon).—"All Civil Servants should take the Oath of Allegiance again." Yes, and some of the rebels would take it and swallow it without a shiver.

J. A. (Streatham).—"What is your opinion of a country spending £1,067,000 daily on intoxicating liquor, and at the same time threatening to close its largest hospital for want of funds?" When did you cease beating your grandmother?

G. (Gravesend).—Don't be so uncharitable. Red noses are sometimes due to chronic indigestion.

"LADY" (Birmingham).—"It's not the secrets of the dead we want to know, but the secrets of the living." Is it? We are not curious either way.

K. E. D. (Ipswich).—In regard to every aspect of Lord Weardale's "Save the (Enemy) Children Fund," we say that charity begins at home, and, in this case, ought to stay there.

M. G. (Melbourne).—"'Tis a land full of sunshine and honey, There is plenty of chickens, 'tis true; But I'm certain, if you have no money, You'll find there's no honey for you." Try feeding those chickens on golden syrup.

J. P. B. (Peckham).—"Distressed gentle folk" are perhaps some of the most pitiable victims of present economic conditions, owing to their helplessness in adversity after the sheltered lives they formerly led." Only falling prices and increased national prosperity can aid them.

J. S. (Prestwick).—Glad to have seen your friend's interesting letter on Anglo-American relations. No mistake, he can sling the ink.

E. M. B. (Enfield).—"Kindly don't mention my name" Why the blue mischief should we?

R. C. (Faversham). — Thanks for "correcting" our grammar. It is readers like you who build up an Editor's reputation.

"NO ALL" (Stockport).—"Which won in the last strike, the miners or the Government?" Both sides lost by a short head.

S. T. H. (Taunton).—Your idea of "reducing wages by half" has been put to our staff, and lost.

H. E. (Upper Norwood).—"What is the largest station in Britain? The longest platform? The largest manufacturer of matches? The most popular and common matchbox?" Would hurry to answer your soul-stirring questions, but we happen to be terribly busy.

H. C. D. (Portishead).—If you expec us to interest ourselves in the *reduction* of a sentence for cruelty to a horse, you've backed a non-starter.

"EX-SERVICE" (Oswestry) claims the land which was "promised to ex-soldiers so long ago." He'll be going to Lloyd George and claiming 9d. for 4d. next.

A. G. M. (Nethy Bridge).—The savage determination of the Pussyfooters to impose their narrow teetotal creed on better men than themselves, often causes them to descend to most unscrupulous methods.

"NERO" (Chelsea).—A cynic might say that a married policeman receives more pay as a sort of compensation.

M. N. (Yeovil).—You look too far over your shoulder. There are no birds in last year's nests.

"SHORTHAND" (Hertford).—We note the Town Clerk's Department of Greenwich advertises at £216 18s. a year a vacancy for a feminine shorthand-typist. Some patriotic member of the Borough Council ought to have something to say about this.

"VICTIM."—We agree with much you say about small property owners, but when you add "card enclosed," you *do* tell a whopper.

R. G. (Sawbridgeworth).—You intended to write to Mr. Lloyd George, but changed your mind and wrote to us instead. An affecting proof that second thoughts really are best.

W. F. (Rugeley).—It seems that, after being remanded in "custardy," you were planked clean in the soup. Still, never say die.

***(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)***

Our Great Xmas Gift Offer

*For full particulars see page ii. of Cover.*

SEND FOR YOURS TO-DAY.

## SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

*18/- per line. (Minimum 3 lines).*

BEST AND CHEAPEST wholesale warehouse for beginners. Remnants, Drapery, Ready-mades, Travellers' Samples. Send for catalogue. Cochran's Warehouse, 1, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

"A SURE LIVING" Selling Ready-mades and General Drapery. Quick sale, big profits. No experience required. Sample Parcels from 10/6, Bales from £2. Satisfaction guaranteed. Repeat Orders arriving daily. Price List and "Beginners' Guide" Free.—B., Palatine Warehouse, 639, Mosley Street, Manchester.

GOOD SPARE-TIME AGENCY.—Applications invited from respectable working men in regular employment to supply Boots, Suits, Drapery, Watches and Jewellery for cash or credit. Liberal supply of samples. Commission highest paid.—Apply, Freeman, Contractors, H.M. Government, Lavender Hill, London.

OVERCOATS AND SUITS TURNED equal to new. Send garments for estimate. Price list. Write L., Silk and Co. (J.B.), 84, City Road, E.C.1. WE COLLECT. 'Phone Central 1812.

CATALOGUE? Yes! Your name and address on card, and one shall be sent. G. F. Letts, Fruit Grower, 38, Hadleigh, Suffolk.

FOR ALL NERVE TROUBLES send postcard for free sample of Curacea—the Liquid Nerve Tonic—to Curacea Co. (Sec. 2), Elm Grove, London, S.E.15.

HARRIS TWEEDS, direct from Scotland, genuine hand-made, hard-wearing, all-wool tweed, direct from weaver to wearer. 11/6 a yard, selected patterns post free.—A. Driver (Dept. 34), 65, Eastgate, Inverness, Scotland.

£5 to £10 per week can be easily earned for a small outlay of 30/-; no previous experience necessary.—Write for particulars to H. Levaine (Dept. J.B.), 143, Houndsditch, London.

OVERCOATS and Suits Turned Successfully. Descriptive booklet and Price List FREE.—The City Repair Co. (D.B.), 260, High Holborn, W.C.


# a-tish-oo!

A-tish-oo! A-tish-oo! A-tish-oo! Nature's warning that the germs of infection have entered the nose or throat! Use "NOSTROLINE" nasal specific. It kills the germs and prevents a bad cold developing. Better still, use it regularly and defy infection. "NOSTROLINE" prevents as well as cures. It is antiseptic, fragrant and pleasant to use on account of its cooling, soothing properties. Invaluable for nasal catarrh and sore throat.

In handy tubes, 1/3 & 3/-, from all Chemists or by post 1/5 & 3/3 from MATTHEWS LABORATORIES, LTD., CLIFTON, BRISTOL.

# NOSTROLINE
NASAL SPECIFIC

## BEACON OILSKINS
**will keep you dry always.**

Men's Coats from 25/-, Ladies' from 35/6, Children's from 22/6 (2-year-old size). Adult's Sou-wester, 3/-; Long Leggings, 6/- All guaranteed against stickiness, leakage or dissatisfaction on money-back methods.

Illustrated List Post Free. Send p.c. for it to BARBOURS, LTD., 67, Beacon Buildings, South Shields, England.


## THE AWFUL COST OF INDIGESTION.

### Keeps thousands poor, weak and discouraged.

Many stomach sufferers are continually trying new "cures" for indigestion and similar troubles, and they waste pounds in this way in the course of a year. Others try expensive diets in order to secure a little relief from their distressing complaints. Usually it is all in vain, and they only get more hopeless than ever. Why don't all these folk adopt the advice of those who used to suffer but who now eat what they like, and take Bisurated Magnesia? It's so very safe, sure and speedy! Half a teaspoonful in a little water after meals, and pain is impossible. Just think of it . . . to be able to eat what you fancy and know you're not going to be doubled up with pain afterwards! Bisurated Magnesia is worth every penny of the Three Shillings it costs; but you should look for the makers' name, BISMAG LTD., on the wrapper to ensure you get the right kind.

BISURATED MAGNESIA is the best remedy for indigestion, and is also obtainable in tablet form at 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d. per flask. [Advt.]

BARGAINS.—16-page Bargain List, in addition to my large Catalogue, sent free on request. Such articles as Boys' Boots at 10/6 per pair, Men's Flannel Shirts 10/6. Big reduction in Blankets, Sheets, Raincoats, Hot Water Bottles, etc. Huge list of cycles, Tyres, and all Accessories sent immediately. Just write "Catalogue, please," and the Catalogue will be posted free of charge by return.—Address, H. Fitzpatrick, Dept. 52, Burnley.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.
RECRUITS WANTED.

SKILLED MEN required for the following trades: Carpenters, Clerks, Camera Repairers, Cooks and Butchers, Coppersmiths, Dynamo and Switchboard Attendants, Engine Drivers, Fitters Driver (Petrol), Hospital Orderlies, Musicians, Painters, Photographers, Power Station Engineers, Sheet Metal Workers, Storekeepers, Tinsmiths, Wireless Operator Mechanics. Age 18 to 28 Civilians, and 18 to 38 ex-Service men.

UNSKILLED RECRUITS also required.

For full particulars call or write—
INSPECTOR OF RECRUITING, Royal Air Force, 4, Henrietta St., Covent Garden, W.C.2.

LEARN Dutton's 24-hour shorthand, 3s. per month, secure speed of 150 words per minute. Specimen lesson, 2d.—Dutton's College, Dept. 12, Skegness.

MATERNITY (Finlay's Patents). Adjustable any size. Gowns from 34s., Skirts 21s., Costumes 84s., Corsets 25/6. Free wonderful Baby Book. Fashion's Bulletin. Patterns on request. —Finlay's, 250, Houldsworth St., Manchester.

LEARN to write advertisements and earn from £5 to £10 weekly upwards, both sexes.—Write, Secretary Dept. J.B., Dixon Institute of Advertising, 199, Oxford Street, London.

A KNOWLEDGE OF SPANISH doubles the worth of a man (or woman) in Commerce, Literature, and the leading professions. Postal tuition. Booklet free.—Halam School (Dept. 36), Southwell, Notts.

FREE.—Write at once for Illustrated Catalogue, "How to commence in business with £10." H. Marks, 51-52, Houndsditch, London, E.1. Cheapest wholesale warehouse for Drapery, Blouses, Overalls, Costumes, Gent's Clothing.


# Rubber Thigh Boots 21/- Post paid.

Every fisherman and all who work in the wet should possess a pair of these Government Thigh Boots. They are perfect in condition, and passed by Government inspectors. Secure a pair now for they are being eagerly sought after.

Having bought largely, we are able to offer at the exceptionally low price of 21/- post paid. Send for our free illustrated catalogue of footwear.

**WM. PATTERSON & SONS**
**D 85, Overgate, Dundee.**

# DOWN COME THE PRICES!!!

STAGGERING REDUCTION IN

# BLANKETS

**1,500 Pairs of Heavy Made Full Double Bed Size White Fleecy Blankets**

TO BE CLEARED AT

| 21/6 | 40/- |
|---|---|
| PAIR | TWO PAIRS |

NEVER again will you have such an offer. Grasp this opportunity NOW, for to-morrow you may be too late. We will gladly send them on approval, and if you are not delighted we will refund your money immediately.

**THE ALBION DRAPERY CO.**
**DEPT. J.B. BURNLEY.**


56 lbs. Finest Washing Soap, 23/9 carr. pd. Money refunded if dissatisfied. British Cleaner Co., Ltd., 46, Victoria St., Manchester.

£10 CAPITAL.—Your living guaranteed. Write now for FREE Guide of Drapery, Boots, etc. R. Marks, 154, Houndsditch, London, E.1.

£5 to £20 WEEKLY if you can sketch.—Write, Dept. 50, Holborn Studios, 28, Golden Square, London, W.1.

SPORTING GUNS, 12 Bore, Single Barrel, 45/-, 60/-, Double £5, Folding (unique), £7, Hammerless £7 10s. .410 Single Barrel £3, Double £5 10s. Beginner's Gun with supply Cartridges 35/-; Air Guns 7/9. Guns bought. J. B. Armoury, 41, Newington Butts, London, S.E.11.

SHOPKEEPERS, Beginners and Demobilised Men. Hosiery, Drapery, Underclothing, Haberdashery, Fancy Goods, Stationery, Xmas Novelties. Supplied by cheapest warehouse in the trade. Ideal Warehouse, 152, Houndsditch, E.1.

FURNITURE, 35 gns. Home all complete. Gigantic Sale before rebuilding. A Great Bargain, including the strong made front-room suite with large couch, 2 Gent's Easy & 4 Standard Chairs, Walnut Overmantel, extending dining table, Heavy brass rail fender & fire set. Full size handsome brass mounted Bedstead, with wire spring mattress and all quite new bedding, complete. Nice reflecting mirror Bedroom suite, with large Dressing Chest, Washstand and Chairs to match, 2 rolls Linoleum, Rugs, Mats, Carpet, Table, also Kitchen Furniture, Arm and other Chairs, all in new condition, for 35 gns. Would separate, deliver free, or could remain in store until wanted. Write or call for free lists, Moore's (Warehousing and Removal Dept.), facing Herne Hill Railway Station. 'Phone Brixton 2599.

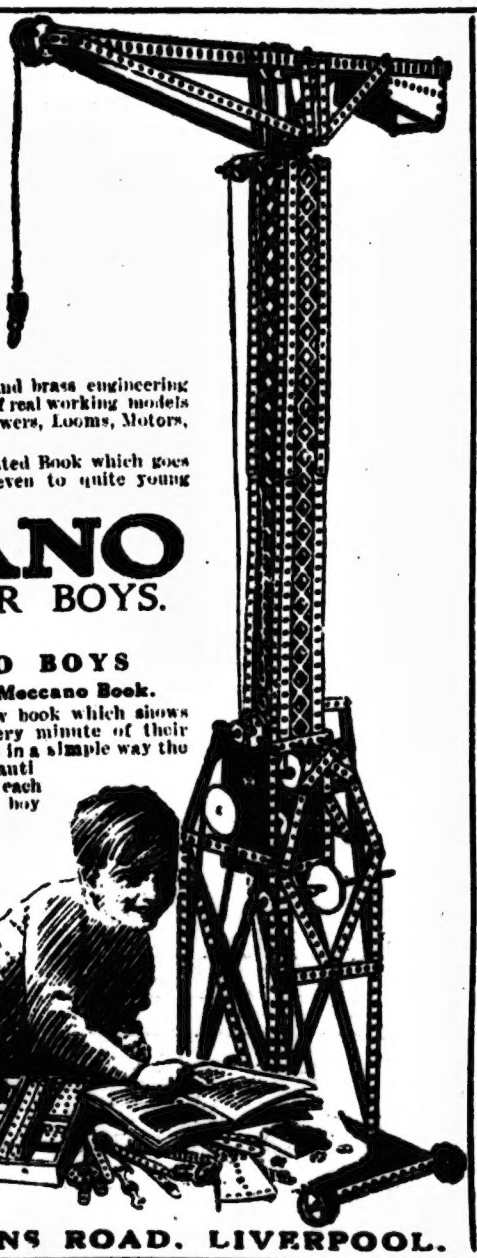
ACCOUNTANCY, SECRETARYSHIP, COSTING, ADVERTISING, SHORTHAND.
Specialised Postal Courses (exam. coaching, and practical training). Individual tuition taken at home, in spare time, under a staff of Honoursmen, Chartered Accountants, and Barristers-at-Law. Moderate fees—by instalments, if preferred.
Send postcard for "Student's Guide," free and post paid.—Metropolitan College, Dept. 31, St. Albans.

KNIT YOUR OWN JUMPER and Sports Coats. Best Fluffing Wool, 12/6 per lb., postage paid. Shade card on application. Barrand (Dept. 19), Carlisle Road, Bradford.

EARN £6 A WEEK.—Easy work. Generous pay. A straightforward proposition. Write at once for particulars. Maximum Shoe Co., Ltd., 92, Maximum Works, Northampton.

DO YOU ADVERTISE? Your advertisement inserted in 58 Provincial Newspapers for 8/6. London and suburban series same price.—Write for prospectus, Central Press Series Dept. 60), 190, Strand, London, W.C.2.


# His Heart's Desire



BOYS are tremendously keen on "something that works"—something that they can build and take to pieces themselves. That is the keynote of Meccano's popularity.

Meccano is a wonderful system of steel and brass engineering units with which any boy can build scores of real working models—Cranes—like the one shown here—Eiffel Towers, Looms, Motors, Aeroplanes, Bridges.

No skill or study needed. The big Illustrated Book which goes with each outfit makes everything clear even to quite young boys.

# MECCANO
ENGINEERING FOR BOYS.

**FREE TO BOYS**
**A Splendid New Meccano Book.**

This is a beautiful new book which shows boys how to enjoy every minute of their play hours. It explains in a simple way the joys of Meccano. It is beautifully illustrated and each page is brimming with boy fun and happiness.

***HOW TO GET A FREE COPY.***
Just show this advt. to three chums and send us their names and addresses with your own. Put No. 22 after your name for reference. Write to-day.

*Complete Outfits 6/- to 180/-.*

MECCANO LTD., BINNS ROAD, LIVERPOOL.


REAL HARRIS and Lewis Homespuns. Direct from makers; best quality only; patterns free. Harris Tweed D pot, James Street, Stornoway.

DO YOU WANT FRIENDS? If so, send 8d. for "THE LINK" (not matrimonial). LINK, 3, Wine Office Court, E.C.

STENHOUSE PILLS for Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, Lumbago, etc. Sir Benjamin Brodie's prescription (1850). The Finest Liver Tonic: Prevention and Cure. A Cure is found in Every Box. All Chemists. Trial Box, 2/1.—STENHOUSE PILLS, Ltd., 47, Standard Buildings, Leeds.

"CARLTON" tobacco pouch (patented), the ideal Xmas present: novel, unique, airtight: real morocco or suède leather: 6s. each, post free.—Novelty Co., 330, Oakfield Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

ADAPTABLE Self Haircutter (super-blades), reliability guaranteed. 4/9 post free. Pateman & Co., Moothall Ch., Nottingham. Agents wanted.

GRAMOPHONE, 6 tunes, 200 needles, £3 17s. 6d. car. pd. Approval willingly. Records, 29s. 6d. doz. Complete Gramophone and Record Catalogue, free. (State which required.) Preece, Dept. "O," 174, Lavender Hill, S.W.11.

SAFETY razor blades resharpened by wet process, 1s. 6d. per doz., post free.—Bladestrop, Ltd., 28, Gloucester Street, E.C.1.

CANARIES, largest, best collection in world, for singing, breeding, exhibition. Illustrated list free. Also Parrots, Mules, etc. Approval. Birdlime 1/4, 2/6. Catchers' list "B" of latest appliances, including Clip Nets, receipt of address. Rudd, Bird Specialist, Norwich.

FOR THE COMPLEXION. Oriana Crystals in solution do away with the powder-puff and paste, and leaves the skin clean, healthy, and perfect in colour. Highly perfumed. Price, 5/- for oval tin, enough for approximately 40 applications. Obtainable from the manufacturers only, Oriana Co., 55/58, Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

BOOTS, direct from our Northampton factory. We guarantee to save you money. Send p.c. for it. Cat. John Emmet, Ltd., Dt. 7, Northampton.

OVERCOATS, Suits and Costumes, turned equal to new, send garments for estimate. C. Pike, 1a, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

REAL NAVY SERGE, as supplied H.M. Navy, 3/11, 5/7 yd. Patts. Free. A. Fleming and Co., Naval Contractors, Queen St., Portsmouth.

SUITS, Overcoats, turned successfully, descriptive booklet and price list, write the Invisible Repair Co., Dept. J.B., St. Martins Court, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4. Established 1903.

COMIC WIGS, Fancy Costumes, Tricks, Jokes, Tattooing Outfits. C. S. Davis, 289, Gray's Inn Road, King's Cross, London, W.C.

# Bullets' Record Xmas Offer

## FIRST PRIZE 1,000 GUINEAS

2ND PRIZE 100 GUINEAS

3RD PRIZE £50 GUINEAS

10 Prizes of 5 GUINEAS

10 Prizes of 3 GUINEAS

100 Prizes of 1 GUINEA

200 PRIZES OF 5/-

1,000 PRIZES OF 2/6

3,000 'TARGET' PRIZES

## 2,000 POPULAR NOVELS

### HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Forty examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the example chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with any letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. This example will guide you:—Example: FAIR FIGHT. Bullet:—FOR SEAT IN PARLIAMENT. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for sixpence. If more coupons are used an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent.

**LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 397.**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OUR SOVEREIGN | LETTING WIFE HAVE IT ALL | BRITISH | MY CHRISTMAS BOX |
| SERVING HIS COUNTRY | FATHER'S KID | STATE SALARY | WHAT A NUISANCE |
| GOOD BOY | NOTHING TO BOAST OF | MOTHER OF TEN | GREAT TEMPTATION |
| BOXING | A LUCKY HIT | A PESSIMIST | A WEAK MAN |
| MAKES US COMPLAIN | NEVER | GETTING THE BIRD | IN THE DOCK |
| FIGHTING CHANCE | TOMMY'S HOME | STANDING TOGETHER | NEW WORLD |
| AFTER HIS HEART | PAST AND PRESENT | ALL AT ONCE | THE MAIDEN'S PRAYER |
| MY DREAM | ENGLISH HEROES | READY TO STRIKE | BAD SPIRITS |
| IN TEN YEARS' TIME | MIGHT DO WORSE | SELLING RACE | MOST AGITATING WHEN |
| DEAR TO US | LOWER ORDERS | NOT FOR ME | GOVERNMENT GRANTS |

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 16th

Example _____
Bullet

Example _____
Bullet

(397) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 1 Coupon send P.O. for 6d.

Signed _____
Address _____

If unable to secure extra coupons you can write your "Bullets" on plain paper.

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 16th.

Example _____
Bullet

Example _____
Bullet

(397) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 2 Coupons send P.O. for 1s.

Signed _____
Address _____

Envelopes should be marked "Bullets" No. 397, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 16th.

Example _____
Bullet

Example _____
Bullet

(397) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 3 Coupons send P.O. for 1s. 6d.

Signed _____
Address _____

Closing Date, Thursday, Dec. 16th.

Example _____
Bullet

Example _____
Bullet

(397) P.O. No._____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.
With 4 Coupons send P.O. for 2s.

Signed _____
Address _____

**BULLETS RULES.**

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judges, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality.

2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.

3. All four coupons may be used, and a postal order enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of, which must be made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

4. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned.

5. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

6. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

## Result of 395th 'Bullets' Competition

**FIRST PRIZE OF $1,000:**

**Mr. M. CRYSTAL,**
**30, Exchange Street, Blackpool.**

Example:—SELLING OFF.
Bullet:—IF "THINGS ARE BAD."

**SECOND PRIZE OF $100:**

**Mr. E. A. WALKER,**
**Care of 17, Harlot Place, Hull.**

Example:—NOT FOND OF WORK.
Bullet:—FEELING "WE MUST DECT."

**THIRD PRIZE OF $25:**

**Mr. J. WILLIAMS,**
**47, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston.**

Example:—NOVEL IDEA.
Bullet:—FINISHING ONE WAR FIRST.

**10 Prizes of $5 each:**

Mr. C. A. DEACON, 89, Hungerhill Rd., Nottingham: EMPTY CUPBOARD—OFFICIALS BEFORE FINDING ANYTHING.

Mr. J. L. WHITE, 11, Melrose Gdns., Kelvinside North, Glasgow: WHEN SHE LIKES—FLAPPER SAYS SHE LOVES.

Mrs. H. HANAFY, Boughton, Northampton: NOT FOND OF WORK—OR COUNTRY—THAT'S SOCIALISM.

Miss M. BENTLEY, 163, Walmersley Road, Bury: EVERLASTING—QUESTIONS, THEN PENSION'S REFUSED.

Mr. A. BUSHELL, 63, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells: WOMAN'S TONGUE—"EVEN MONEY" IT WINS.

Mr. G. WHITEHOUSE, 4, Lycett Road, Wallasey, Ches.: REPAIRING HOME—RUSSIAN WORKER—ABOUT MIDNIGHT.

Mr. A. CLARKE, 102, St. Thomas' Road, Preston: MAN FOR US—PREFERS FIGHT TO WALK-OVER.

Mr. R. WILLIAMS, Cefn Bychan, Blaenau, Festiniog, N.W.: CAN'T STOP—AT PAPER SECURITIES, LEAGUE.

Mr. A. TUNSTALL, 9, Warwell Lane, Yardley, B'ham: REPAIRING HOME—ALIENS—TO BRING RELATIONS.

Mr. P. GOODWIN, 41, Hawthorn Rd., Bexley Heath: BOARDING TRADE—IF HUSBANDS WERE RAFFLED.

**10 Prizes of $2 10s. each:**

Mr. R. LITTLE, 69, Devonshire Rd., Bexhill-on-Sea: MAGGOT ARGUES—"RECORDER" WHOSE "SENTENCES" STARTLE.

Mr. A. PYBUS, 9, Arthington Street, Bradford: MEAN BUSINESS—NOT SPORT—MOST PUGILISTS.

Mr. G. CLADINGBOWL, 71, Deakefield Road, Bolham: THE EXTERMISTS—RECRUITED FROM LABOUR'S UNFIT.

Mr. S. CRAWFORD, 9, Windsor Ave., Flixton, Lancs.: RED HOT—PORTER IMAGINES CARRIAGE DOOR.

Mr. W. KAY, 57, Cromwell Grove, Levenshulme: A MOVING PICTURE—INDEPENDENT "GROUP" WHEN "DEVELOPED."

Mr. H. JESSOP, 38, West Street, Bromley, Kent: WHEN SHE LIKES—THE BOSS—SHE IS.

Mr. A. T. LEE, 61, Oxford St., Barrow-in-Furness: BOND OF EMPIRE—HOLDS TOGETHER OUR BELONGINGS.

Mr. A. DEWE, 5, Melbourne Tce., Friston St., B'ham: NO RIGHT HERE—DISARMAMENT, TILL BOLSHEVISM'S KILLED.

Mr. W. B. SHAW, 7, Clyde Road, Alexandra Pk., N.22: THE LABOUR PROBLEM—LET "EX" EQUAL "NOUGHT."

Mrs. A. LUTMAN, 32, Oakfield Rd., Cannon Hill, B'ham: MEAN BUSINESS—NEVER LACKS POLITICAL APOLOGISTS.

List of 10s Prizewinners in "Bullets" Competition 396 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and Other Prizewinners can be seen at the Offices of "John Bull."


THE JOHN BULL GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE & LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex.

The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 5s. per annum. We offer it to you absolutely free.

We have made our insurance so simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal Representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

*The full conditions governing this scheme will be published from time to time.*

WHAT WE WILL PAY:

| | |
|---|---|
| For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to .. .. .. | £200 |
| In case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home | £200 |
| For the Loss of Two Limbs or Both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye .. .. .. | £200 |
| For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye .. .. | £100 |
| Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to .. | £10 |
| In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks .. | £1 per week |

ORDER FORM
To be Retained by Newsagent.

To.....
Newsagent.

Please deliver "JOHN BULL" to me regularly until further notice.

Signed.....

Address.....

Dec. 11, 1920.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be forwarded to you, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 12, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM
Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee.....

Address.....

Signature of Insured.....

(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Home Address.....

Dec. 11, 1920.

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

Enclose 1d. stamp if an acknowledgment of receipt of Registration Form is required.

# £1,000 MUST BE WON

## ONE-WEEK FOOTBALL PRIZE

## NO ENTRANCE FEE! NO GOALS REQUIRED!

THE sum of £1,000 will be paid to the sender of a coupon containing the correct results of the 14 matches given. If 14 correct results are not given, the £1,000 will be awarded to the sender of the most correct results, so that in any event the £1,000 **MUST BE WON.** This is the

**BIGGEST ONE-WEEK FOOTBALL PRIZE OFFERED**

by any weekly journal. We would advise competitors to make a careful study of football form before filling in their coupons. **Scottish and Irish readers can compete.** Competitors may send in as many coupons as they like.

**THIS COMPETITION IS EXCLUSIVE TO 'JOHN BULL.'**
**COUPONS APPEAR IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE ONLY.**

**READ THESE RULES CAREFULLY.**

(1) All attempts must be made on coupons taken from this week's issue of "JOHN BULL." Coupons must be completely filled in with ink in ordinary handwriting (typewriting or pencil will not be allowed), and in accordance with the instructions given on this page.

(2) The sum of £1,000 (one thousand pounds) will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon containing the correct result of all the matches played to a finish. If no competitor succeeds in giving all the correct results, the sum of £1,000 will be paid to the competitor sending a coupon with the most correct results. In the event of a tie or ties, the prize to be won will be equally divided amongst the most successful competitors. No competitor can receive more than one share of the £1,000. Should any match not be played to a finish on the date given, or as set out on the coupon, it will be disregarded.

**HOW TO FILL UP YOUR COUPONS.**

If you think the "Home" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Home"; if you think the "Away" team will win, place a X in the column headed "Away"; if you think the result will be a Draw, place a X in the column headed "Draw." **Only one X must be entered for each match.** Coupons must be completely filled up in ink.

(3) Fourteen crosses in all must be marked on each coupon, one for each match. Coupons marked otherwise will be disqualified.

(4) No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any coupon. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt. No correspondence will be entered into nor will interviews be granted.

(5) Any coupon on which an alteration of any kind has been made will be disqualified. Any coupons received later than December 16th will be disqualified.

(6) The Editor's decision must be accepted as final and legally binding in all matters concerning this Competition, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Cut out Coupon neatly and address all entries as follows: **Football Competition No. 15, "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.** Write "Football" in top left-hand corner of envelope. All coupons can be enclosed in one envelope, but this must not contain entries for other Competitions.

**COMPETITORS MAY SEND AS MANY COUPONS AS THEY LIKE.**

**THE RESULT OF OUR THIRTEENTH FOOTBALL COMPETITION APPEARS ON PAGE 5.**

**FOR A CORRECT OR NEAREST CORRECT FORECAST OF ONLY 14 MATCHES**

**"JOHN BULL" FREE FOOTBALL COUPON.**

Matches to be played on Saturday, December 18th. Coupons must reach us not later than Thursday, December 16th.

| Home Team | | Away Team | Home | Away | Draw |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Blackburn R. | v. | Middlesbrough | | | |
| Bradford City | v. | Arsenal | | | |
| Chelsea | v. | Bradford | | | |
| Liverpool | v. | Aston Villa | | | |
| Manchester U. | v. | Newcastle United | | | |
| Sunderland | v. | Manchester C. | | | |
| Tottenham H. | v. | Bolton Wanderers | | | |
| W. Bromwich A. | v. | Everton | | | |
| Sheffield W. | v. | Leicester City | | | |
| Stockport | v. | South Shields | | | |
| Gillingham | v. | Watford | | | |
| Portsmouth | v. | Swindon Town | | | |
| Queen's P. R. | v. | Crystal Palace | | | |
| Reading | v. | Southampton | | | |

☛ **Coupons must be cut—not torn out.**

I enter "John Bull" Football Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions on this page and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding and enter on that understanding.

(15) SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

.....


*Price One Shilling and Threepence.*

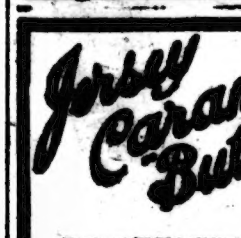
**ZADKIELS' ALMANAC FOR 1921.**

Contains Articles on Einstein's Theory, the conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter at London and Washington, and General Predictions. ZADKIEL FORETOLD the Great Crises in September to November, 1920, in Ireland, India and England, etc.

London: Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co., Stationers' Hall Court, E.C.

**ENGINEERS and Apprentices**

Earn more money at your trade. Write for Free Book which tells you how. Say what trade you want to learn. We teach by post the following:—Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Draughtsmanship, Motor Engineering, Mathematics, Aero Engines. The Technological Institute of Great Britain, Ltd. 39 Thanet House, 231 Strand, London.




*Who's your Favourite Footballer?*

**A CABINET PHOTOGRAPH FREE**

of S. Puddefoot, West Ham Famous Centre Forward, or one of 399 other great players given in exchange for the real photos enclosed in the packets of

**GODFREY PHILLIPS "PINNACE" NAVY CUT.**

20 *for* 11½d. 10 *for* 6d.
50 *for* 2/5

containing a real Carte de Visite Photograph.

**Mead** ON EASY TERMS

direct from factory at wholesale prices and SAVE POUNDS. World's finest Table Grand Portable-Hornless and exquisitely coloured horn. **Mead-o-phones** to select from. Grand bargains in Columbia, Regal, Zono-phone, Pathe, Edison Bell and Deccan. Sent on 10 days' trial, packed free, carriage paid, with 50 tunes and 400 needles. Prompt delivery. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send postcard for art catalogue.

MEAD COMPANY (Dept. (J. B.) 7) Balsall Heath, BIRMINGHAM.

**Jersey Caramels. Buttacream Toffee**

THE MOST DELICIOUS SWEETMEATS MADE

BATGER & Co LTD London

**GRAVES OF SHEFFIELD**

Write for patterns, post free, of Overcoats, Suits, Costumes, Fabrics, Blankets, Mackintoshes etc., or Catalogues of Footwear, Hosiery, Drapery, Ladies' and Children's Clothing, Sheffield Cutlery, Gramophones and Records, Tea and Dinner Services, Bedsteads, Bedding, Sewing Machines, Cycles, Tyres, Carpets and Linos, Pottery & Appliances, etc. Grand prizes. EASY TERMS J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

**"MILES AHEAD OF SOAP"**

**GRESOLVENT**

INSTANTLY DISSOLVES GREASE & GRIME

For the Hands and the Household. In Tins at 4½d., 8d. and 1/9.

**"KIRBEE"** BRITISH BLADE 4/- DOZ. POST FREE

MONKEY
ROTARY STROP
STROPS ANY MAKE OF SAFETY RAZOR BLADE LIKE NEW, IN TEN SECONDS. JUST DROP BLADE IN SLOT AND TURN HANDLE. THAT'S ALL. NO ADJUSTMENTS. NO SKILL. NO DUDS.

PRICE POST FREE 5/-

*You can try the Monkey Strop free for 7 days. If for any reason whatever you don't like it send it back and we will return you 5/- in full*

DOUGLAS KIRBY AND CO. Department J.B. GLOUCESTER.

*The Monkey Strop is made by the same firm as the Douglas Pruner, the famous self haircutter (price 5/6) of which 20,000 are now in use in Great Britain. You can try it on the same terms as the Monkey Strop*

# 55/- Carr. paid!

Pair of Heavy-made, full-double-bed size, beautifully whipped white Fleecy Blankets.

One splendid full-double-bed size real "ALHAMBRA" Quilt.

Two Hemmed Bleached Pillow Cases.

One Hemmed Bleached Bolster Case.

Pair Heavy Floral closely patterned white or ecru real "Nottingham" long lace Curtains.

**2 HEAVY BLANKETS**
**1 "ALHAMBRA" QUILT**
**2 PILLOW CASES**
**1 BOLSTER CASE**
**2 LONG LACE CURTAINS**
**1 LARGE TABLE-CLOTH**
**1 HEARTH-RUG (Free)**

One large-size lovely design hemmed White Damask Dining Table-cloth.

FREE, one large-size, neatly patterned genuine Fringed Hearth-rug.

ASTOUNDING OFFER for only 55s. CARRIAGE PAID to any address, money returned if not absolutely satisfied. (Foreign and Colonial Orders 5s. extra).

THE MILTON DRAPERY STORES (Dept. 4), PADIHAM, LANCASHIRE.

# GRAVES

British to the core, the very essence of dependability and excellence. Made in our own Sheffield Gramophone Factory & second to none either in appearance or Tone Perfection. Polished solid Oak Cabinet, powerful and silent Motor, tasteful Art Metal Panel, handsomely decorated Horn.

10/- NOW

DELIVERED carriage paid with 12 magnificent 10in Record Selections for 10/- with order. If satisfied the balance is payable in 10 monthly payments of 10/- Money back in full if disappointed.

Catalogue Post Free. Write for list of new models. Easy terms.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD

# MAZAWATTEE TEA

*Wafts its fragrance throughout the world*

Sold by all Grocers

## SAVE 3/- IN THE POUND

Do you pay income tax? If so, do you know you are entitled to an allowance in respect of Life Assurance premiums paid during the year on your own and your wife's lives up to one-sixth of your total net income from all sources? Why not use this money instead of giving it away?

Write now for our Prospectuses for Whole Life and Endowment Assurance to The Managing Director, The City Life Assurance Co., Ltd., 6, Paul Street, Finsbury, London, E.C. 2.

## DAMAGED GOODS.

What a poignant and distressing thing it is when we hear of people referring to themselves as "Damaged Goods." Brieux, the gifted author, fully realised the disastrous effects of those most terrible evils—VENEREAL DISEASES—when he wrote the play under that name.

Sufferers can only hope for relief and cure by placing themselves under expert medical treatment, such as that obtainable at the Government clinics.

The best way to fight these terrible "secret evils" is to keep them secret no longer, but to arm ourselves with knowledge, and for this purpose the N.C.C.V.D publish a large variety of literature on all aspects of the subject, and will be pleased to send you a list. The following booklets are suggested as being of general interest:—

| | Price (Postage extra). |
|---|---|
| N.C.12. Venereal Diseases and the Effects. By Otto May, M.D. ... ... ... ... | 1½d. |
| N.C.24. Integer Vitæ—Notes on the Moral Aspect of the Sex Problem. By J. R. Muirhead, LL.D. ... ... ... ... | 1½d. |
| N.C.25. What Mothers Must Tell Their Children. By Mary Scharlieb, M.D., M.S. ... | 1½d. |
| N.C.31. The Teaching of Children as to the Reproduction of Life. By Beatrice Webb, M.D. ... ... ... ... | 3d. |
| N.C.43. The Changing Moral Standard. By Mrs. A. C. Gotto, O.B.E. ... ... | 3d. |
| N.C.29. The Dangers of Venereal Diseases. By C. J. Macalister, M.D., F.R.C.P. ... ... | 3d. |

*The above literature can be obtained by writing to the N.C.C.V.D., 34, Avenue Chambers, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1., marking the envelope "MEDICAL" (GEN.).*

*Buy the "Welfare Library" comprising 7 interesting books on social subjects, including those named above, price 1s. 3d. complete, from Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons Bookstalls.*

*Free literature and information can also be had by those in doubt or difficulty.*

*All Correspondence is treated in a confidential manner, and replies are forwarded in a plain sealed cover.*

*This announcement is issued by the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, a responsible body recognised by the Government. President: Col. Lord Gorell, C.B.E., M.G. Vice-Presidents: Sir Thomas Barlow, Bt., M.D., F.R.S., Sir Francis Champneys, Bt., M.D., Sir Malcolm Morris, K.C.V.O. F.R.C.S.E., the Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Oxford, Mrs. Scharlieb, C.B.E., M.D.M.S. Gen. Secretary: Mrs. C. Neville Rolfe, O.B.E. (Mrs. A. C. Gotto).*

# Wrecked Nerves and Indigestion

## No Strength at all, Sleepless and Afraid to Eat—Cured by Dr. Cassell's Tablets.

MRS. THORP, 9, Meadow Place, South Lambeth, London, S.W.8, says:—"My trouble was weakened nerves and indigestion, due to reaction following war strain. I lost all strength and became terribly nervous and run-down. It was an effort to do anything, even to go out. Then I began to have pain after food, and severe indigestion. Attacks of flatulence were so violent that I was afraid to eat anything. Next I lost my voice and could only speak in a whisper. This was just weakness of the nerves. Another trouble was sleeplessness, which weakened me still more. I had no strength at all, and no spirit for anything. I kept trying all sorts of medicines, and had advice, too, but nothing did any real good until I got Dr. Cassell's Tablets. The effect was really wonderful.

"In a very short time I felt better, and my nerves became stronger. From then I steadily improved, and now feel ever so well again. The indigestion is so completely gone that I can eat practically anything, and can get refreshing sleep."

# Dr. Cassell's Tablets

**HOME PRICES: 1/3 and 3/-**
(The 3s. size being the more economical.) Sold by Chemists in all parts of the world.
*Refuse Substitutes.*

*The Universal Home Remedy for—*

Nervous Breakdown, Nerve Failure, Neuritis, Hysteria, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Anæmia, Kidney Trouble, Indigestion, Dark Rings, Aching Weakness, Wasting.

Specially valuable for Nursing Mothers and during the Critical Periods of Life.

*Dr. Cassell's Co., Ltd., Manchester.*

**TAKE TWO TABLETS** at bedtime and note how well you sleep; continue, and you will know the joy of health and vigour.

EQUALLY SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN.

# The British Remedy.

# Owbridge's Lung Tonic

for

# COUGHS & COLDS

Ask for "Owbridge" and take no substitute.

*Prepared by*
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd.,
Manufacturers, The Laboratory, HULL.
*Established 1874.*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